

Shares leap to near record level

London stock markets surged 51.329m, to within a whisker of the all-time peak yesterday. A buying spree on Wall Street because of hopes that the United States recession might be ending sent British buyers scrambling. The FT index closed 6.0 up at 579.8—just 17.5 short of the all-time high last April. Page 15

De Lorean sees signs of hope

Mr John De Lorean said in New York last night that he hoped for a financial restructuring of his troubled Belfast-based sports car company, which would ensure the company's survival. He also said he welcomed a planned independent study of the company's finances. Page 15

Begin approves Sinai force

Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, has approved European participation in a peacekeeping force to police Sinai when Israeli troops withdraw this spring, according to a senior American official travelling with Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State.

Pop star's plane lands on road

Gary Numan, the pop star, and his father escaped injury when their single-engine Sessna plane made a forced landing on a busy road at Botley, Southampton, yesterday. A pilot and a record company executive on board were also unhurt.

No parole for Myra Hindley

Myra Hindley, who is in Durham jail serving a life sentence imposed in 1966 for the Moors murders of two children, will not be considered for release until 1985, the Parole Board has decided.

German doctor sent to prison

A Munich gynaecologist and his assistant were found guilty of manslaughter for terminating the life of a mentally handicapped baby girl last year. The judge reduced their prison sentences because of mitigating circumstances. Page 16

Congress move against Salvador

Democrats in the American Congress are renewing efforts to curtail or end United States military aid to El Salvador. President Reagan has certified that the regime of President Duarte was making sufficient progress on human rights. Page 4

Schmidt threat

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, has threatened to resign if leaders of the Social Democratic-Free Democratic coalition cannot agree on a programme for dealing with unemployment. Page 4

Export orders

Engineering export orders were up 40 per cent by the end of last year, heralding a breakthrough by British companies into the overseas markets. Page 15

Rates challenge

Great Universal Stores has issued a writ against Merseyside County Council to challenge an 11m supplementary rate levied to help pay for a 10 per cent cut in bus fares. Page 3

Meat safeguard

The Government proposes to make compulsory the staining of unfit meat to prevent it being sold for human consumption. MPs were told. Parliamentary report, page 4

Botham to play

Ian Botham will play for England in the sixth and final Test against India today despite a thigh strain. He will play as a batsman and hopes to bowl later in the match. Page 22

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Reagan will attend Nato summit in Europe

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, Jan 29

President Reagan will make his first official visit to West Europe in June for talks with Nato leaders and an audience with the Pope, the White House announced today. The trip, which is expected to last about a week, will fall into three separate sections. First, the President will attend the summit meeting of Western industrialized nations in Versailles, between June 4 and 6.

Then, he and Mrs Nancy Reagan will fly to Rome to meet the Pope and President Pertini. Finally, the President will attend a summit meeting of Nato. This meeting is expected to take place in Brussels on June 9 and 10. It will be the first Nato summit meeting for four years. The alliance's heads of state and government last met in Washington in 1978, during President Carter's term.

Announcing the tour, a White House spokesman said the President regarded the Nato meeting as an opportunity for the alliance to shape its response to this decade's challenges. The idea for the meeting arose from two recent Nato ministerial meetings—one which took place just before martial law was introduced in Poland, and the other which was held in Warsaw to consider the West's response to the Polish crisis.

Fast-West relations in the light of the Polish situation, and in particular the Soviet Union's support for the military in Poland, were seen as certain to dominate the Nato meeting. However, the meeting will discuss other challenges confronting the alliance, as well as Spets's decision to join Nato, an agreement new in the process of ratification.

The Versailles meeting, which will also be attended by the leaders of Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan, will consider international economic and monetary issues. This meeting is held annually. The last took place in Ottawa last July and dealt with the world recession, high interest rates, East-West trade and relations between industrialized and developing countries—subjects which seem certain to dominate the Versailles meeting.

The President is to see the tone for his talks with European leaders in a "State of the World" message which he is to deliver here shortly. The trip will be Mr Reagan's fourth visit abroad since he became President, a year ago. All of his earlier trips have been to Canada and Mexico. His last journey took him to the North-South summit of 22 nations in Cancun, Mexico, last October.

Mr Pierre Mauroy, the French Prime Minister, said in Bonn today that a Western trade boycott of the Soviet Union would amount to an economic blockade—and history had taught that blockades can lead to war (Patrick Clough writes). During a two-hour talk, Mr Mauroy and Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, appeared to have agreed to reject economic sanctions against the Soviet Union.

Mr Mauroy told a press conference he believed that to cease trading with the Soviet Union and to tear up the gas pipeline deal would amount to an economic blockade. Such measures were "not on the same level" as the kind of solidarity that Poland needed.

Herr Schmidt said there were no differences in the French and German evaluation of the "Polish response". The two leaders urged the United States to "drop its high interest rate policy which Herr Schmidt said was having extremely negative effects on economics and employment in Europe."

The Chancellor said the reason for their public appeal was that President Reagan needed backing in his efforts to reduce the interest rates. During the Chancellor's visit to the United States last month, the President had expressed his intention "but it is not so easy for him to carry it out in reality".



Haig praises EEC line on Poland

The European response to the Polish crisis has been very encouraging, Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, said yesterday after a 90-minute meeting with Mrs Thatcher (David Spenser writes).

But Mr Haig, pictured above after his talks with the Prime Minister at Downing Street, said the United States, and its allies would continue to assess the situation every step of the way in considering further sanctions against Russia.

He said the situation in Poland continued to deteriorate. He had made it very clear to the Russians, notably in his meeting with Mr. Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, this week, what the United States hoped for and expected in Poland.

Italian police arrest 17 in raids on nine hideouts

From John Earle, Rome, Jan 29

Italian police swooped on Red Brigades terrorists in a new offensive today, making at least 17 arrests in raids on nine hideouts discovered at Verona, Padua and Mantua, near Venice.

These arrests were in addition to the five—three men and two women—captured yesterday on a first-floor raid above a supermarket in Via Pindemonte, on the outskirts of Padua.

These achievements have reinforced the feeling that left-wing terrorism, if not wiped out, has been decapitated and has lost the initiative for the first time in 10 years.

The general was reported in good health after his 42 days' ordeal. He is undergoing tests at an American hospital in Verona. Staff there said the general had told them he had been treated reasonably well in captivity and was given medical regularly.

Box: the police chief of Verona said there seemed

little doubt that the Red Brigades planned to kill him. This could be deduced from the fact that in the early days his captors either blindfolded him or appeared before him hooded, but more recently allowed him to see them face-to-face.

While the police refuse to disclose how they located the general's prison, they indicate that a tip-off came from the world of international drug-smuggling—a drug-peddler is the brother of a wanted Red Brigades Terrorist—and that the rescue operation was mounted entirely by Italian forces without American help.

The police believe that the general spent the whole of his captivity in the Padua flat. His theory is that the terrorists disguised as plumbers, who abducted him from his home in Verona on December 17, drove the 50 miles to Padua in a hired van with the general hidden in a trunk. After unloading him they took the van back to Verona to abandon it there, in order to start the investigators on the wrong trail.

The names were confirmed today of the five terrorists captured in the rescue operation. One is Antonio Savasta, aged 27, sentenced recently to 30 years' imprisonment in his absence by a Sardinian court for terrorist activities there. He was also wanted in connection with two murders including that of Aldo Moro, the Prime Minister, in 1978.

The other two kidnappers and four robbers with violence. The others were named as Emilia Libera, a nurse, aged 26; Cesare de Leonardo, aged 22; Emanuela Frascella, a student, aged 23, whose doctor father had rented the Padua flat; and Giovanni Ciucci, aged 33, who was injured in the raid.

Accompanied by his wife, Judith, and his daughter, Cheryl, General Dozier appeared briefly in public today to thank the Italian authorities for the efficiency and precision of their rescue. Clean shaven and wearing a dress uniform, he looked none the worse for his experience.

General Dozier, described by his aides as a devout Protestant and regular churchgoer, said: "The power of prayer works." (AP reports from Vienna). "I'm here today to tell you that it works and it had a large part in my being here with you today. I pray regularly myself, but during the last few weeks I was on the receiving end of many prayers, and where I was you could sure as hell feel it," he said.

He added: "Events of the past several weeks have reinforced in my mind that the enemies of freedom are many in this world of ours, and that free men must be constantly prepared to contend with them."

General Dozier had a surprise Christmas present for his wife, which he presented at the end of his remarks. He said he had bought it before he was kidnapped but was never able to give it to her for obvious reasons. He then opened a small packet, picked up a gold chain with a Lion of St Mark's pendant, and put it around his wife's neck.

Mrs Dozier kissed him on the left cheek and hugged him.



General Dozier with his wife: "I'm here because the power of prayer works"

Howe set against reflation Budget

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday confirmed the widespread impression emanating from Thursday's meeting of the Cabinet to discuss economic policy that he has decided firmly against including large-scale expansionist measures in his Budget in March.

In an uncompromising statement of the Government's belief in the need to hold to its present broad economic strategy, Sir Geoffrey said it dare not embrace any policy aimed at creating a few more temporary jobs which jeopardized its plans for making Britain more economically efficient and successful.

He went on: "This means that we have to reject firmly and clearly policies which require the creation of either more domestic demand or higher public spending as reliable sources of more growth and jobs. Either would have consequences in terms of inflation, interest rates or taxation or a combination of them, which would retard the drive for industrial efficiency and success."

Sir Geoffrey, who was speaking to the Cambridge University Conservative Association, was taking the opportunity of dampening any expectations of significant reflation before he gets down to working on the details of his Budget.

The Chancellor pressed home the message that he has consistently been directing at his critics inside and outside the Cabinet that tackling inflation is essential to the creation of more real jobs and that the two objectives are inseparable. The notion that high public spending was a reliable engine of growth and jobs was not borne out by recent history or common sense, he said. Boosting monetary demand and increasing public spending as a means of providing growth and jobs had the crucial drawback that they ignored the effect of international pressures on the exchange rate and interest rates.

The Chancellor said that instead of trying to create new markets the Government should promote growth and jobs by halting existing markets with better, and the most important of those was the labour market. The trade unions had squeezed already low profits, siphoning future investment and jobs and pricing their own and other members out of existing jobs.

Flour and eggs were thrown at Sir Geoffrey as he ended his speech at the Cambridge Union (the Press Association reports). A small amount of flour landed on Sir Geoffrey, but the eggs fell a few feet away.

The student who threw the missiles, Mr John Godfrey, aged 19, from Lewes, Sussex, said afterwards it was a demonstration against the Government's economic policies. "Police said there would be no charges. Photograph, page 2

America repels the redcoats

By Margareta Pagano

The American customs official at New York airport had his suspicions of the man with the 200 tiny tubes full of pills mixed up with glassware and ceramics. He ordered them to be opened up and he pounced when a multi-coloured assortment poured out.

There, amid the green pills, the pink pills, the brown pills and the yellow, were what he was looking for: red pills. They resembled, he declared, a hard drug on which sale in the United States. Would the importer explain? It went something like this:

"They are Smarties." "Smarties, smart say?" "Yes, officer, they are sweets eaten by British children. They like the different colours. They are made by Mackintosh."

"Big Mac is in this too?" "Yes, officer, they are sweets eaten by British children. They like the different colours. They are made by Mackintosh."

He took one look and gave his ruling. The green, brown, yellow, and pink Smarties could be admitted. But not the red. For another thing they had cochineal pigment, banned in the United States.

Mr Reid rose to the challenge. He called in his family. He called in children at the airport and patiently they went through the 200 tubes of Smarties sorting out the colours. When they had finished, hands and faces bright red, they had several hundred red Smarties in a heap.

Could they be eaten? No, they had to be dissolved in boiling water and flushed down a drain before the approved colours were allowed to be repacked and gain admittance.

Mr Reid usually imports glassware through Scrings of Glasgow. They both believe there might be a real future in Smarties. Mr Reid packed the 200 tubes with the rest of the goods. Mr Melville Robinson, Scrings's director, commented: "We had no idea there could be such problems. Every worldwide, the air freight company, were equally flummoxed."

And Glaxo Holdings, Britain's main pharmaceutical company, said they had no idea what drug the red Smarties might resemble.

But Rowntree Mackintosh were not so surprised. They produce, said a spokesman, no fewer than six different coloured sets of Smarties for the 80-odd countries to which they export. "All I can say," he said wearily, "is that trade, and food regulations are now so complex that we have to work out for us by computer programme."

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Judge freezes record handshake

By Philip Robinson and Paul Maitland

Lord Grade, deposed head of Associated Communications Corporation, may face three days in a High Court witness box over the proposal to pay his former right-hand man, Mr Jack Gill, a record £750,000 golden handshake.

Mr Justice Slade yesterday froze payment to Mr Gill until a full hearing of an action by the Post Office pension fund. The fund is opposing the £550,000 payment to Mr Gill for loss of office and his option to buy a company-owned house for £100,000 less than its market value. The pension fund speaks for 62 per cent of non-voting shares.

Mr William Goodhart, QC, Mr Gill's counsel, said: "It will be a lengthy hearing and would be much more like 10 days. There are directors be-

ing accused of bad faith. All those directors will clearly have to be called for cross-examination. The examination of Lord Grade alone could fill three days. There could be some considerable investigation of the style in which Lord Grade ran the company."

At an earlier hearing it had been suggested by the Post Office fund's counsel that Lord Grade had signed the house option for Mr Gill and there was an inference that Mr Gill had signed an option granted three days before to Lord Grade.

Mr Goodhart told the court yesterday: "Any suggestion that there was any sort of carve-up between Mr Gill and Lord Grade to do themselves a benefit at the expense of the company, and (they) deliberately concealed that, is something which will be most strongly denied by Mr Gill."

Prominent 'loyalist' shot dead in Belfast

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Mr John McKeague, a prominent 'loyalist', was shot dead in Belfast last night as he was serving in a shop.

Mr McKeague, who had been well known in 'loyalist' circles for several years, was murdered in the Albert Bridge Road when a gunman wearing a duffel coat produced a handgun and fired two shots.

His death renewed fears in the province of upheavals between 'loyalist' paramilitary groups, although where he died is close to the Republican Short-Strand area. He had been an unsuccessful candidate in council elections and in a poll to elect a Northern Ireland assembly.

Mr McKeague's mother died after a petrol bomb attack on her house in the early 1970s.

Mr McKeague, notorious for his links with 'loyalist' paramilitary groups, including the 'Red Hand', seems to have been most active at that time. He was the first Protestant to be rearrested, under the Special Powers Act, only a few minutes after a Belfast magistrate had granted him bail on robbery and handling charges.

Last Saturday a father and son were shot dead at their home in east Belfast by two gunmen who burst in in the early hours of the morning.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Second life term for double killer

A man who killed two women was sentenced to his second term of life imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court yesterday. Mr James Miskin, the Recorder of London, described Edward Thomas Wynne, aged 42, as "representing so great a danger to the public" that he was confident he would never be released.

Mrs Veronica Wynne, aged 40, a nurse at Holloway prison, who married Wynne last May, had earlier pleaded for her husband to be sent to a maximum security hospital. "I will stand by him through thick and thin," she said.

Wynne, of Crayford Road, Holloway, who worked as a computer programmer for Ilington Council, pleaded guilty to the manslaughter of Mrs Rachel Page, aged 75, of Maple Grove, Ealing. His denial of murder was accepted on the grounds of diminished responsibility.

Wynne was sentenced to life imprisonment at the Gloucester Assizes in March, 1981, for the murder four months earlier of Mrs Amy Wilson, aged 43, who was battered to death near her home at Studley, Worcester-shire.

He was released on licence in March, 1980. Shortly after his marriage he drove to Ealing cemetery, where Mrs Page was tending a relative's grave and stabbed her.

TV shows police in death inquiry

Viewers can watch detectives investigating a suspicious death in Monday's episode of BBC's television series *Police*. The series follows the progress of Thames Valley detectives in Reading, Berkshire, as they are called to a lodging house where an 80-year-old woman has been found dead at the bottom of a flight of stairs.

The post-mortem examination reveals that the man appeared to have fallen to his death, but the police investigate whether he could have been pushed after an argument.

End exams, NUT head says

The leader of the largest teachers' union called yesterday for the abolition of the examination system and its replacement by a system of pupil profiles.

Speaking at a Schools Council industry project conference at Stoke Rochford, Lincolnshire, Mr Jack Chambers, President of the National Union of Teachers, said that a new system of evaluating pupils was needed. "The present terminal examinations are less of an assessment of what has or has not been learnt and more of a competitive exercise," he said.

Toxtech contest

A £5,000 prize is being offered to the architect who produces the best design for a new housing estate to be built on a 14-acre site at Toxteth, in the shadow of Liverpool Cathedral.

Foam furniture ban

Children's furniture made mainly of foam is to be banned from sale because of fire risks, Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Minister for Consumer Affairs, said yesterday. She is to issue a prohibition order under the Consumer Safety Act, 1978.

Level of awards to closed shop rebels criticized

By Nicholas Thomas

The Government's decision to pay compensation to more than 400 people dismissed for refusing to join a closed shop between 1974 and 1980 was greeted with grudging acceptance by some yesterday, but as being inadequate by others.

Mr David Blackwell, aged 44, who was dismissed by British Rail in 1976 after almost 17 years' employment, described the offer as "thirty pieces of silver" and added: "It is not compensation that people should ask for, but restitution."

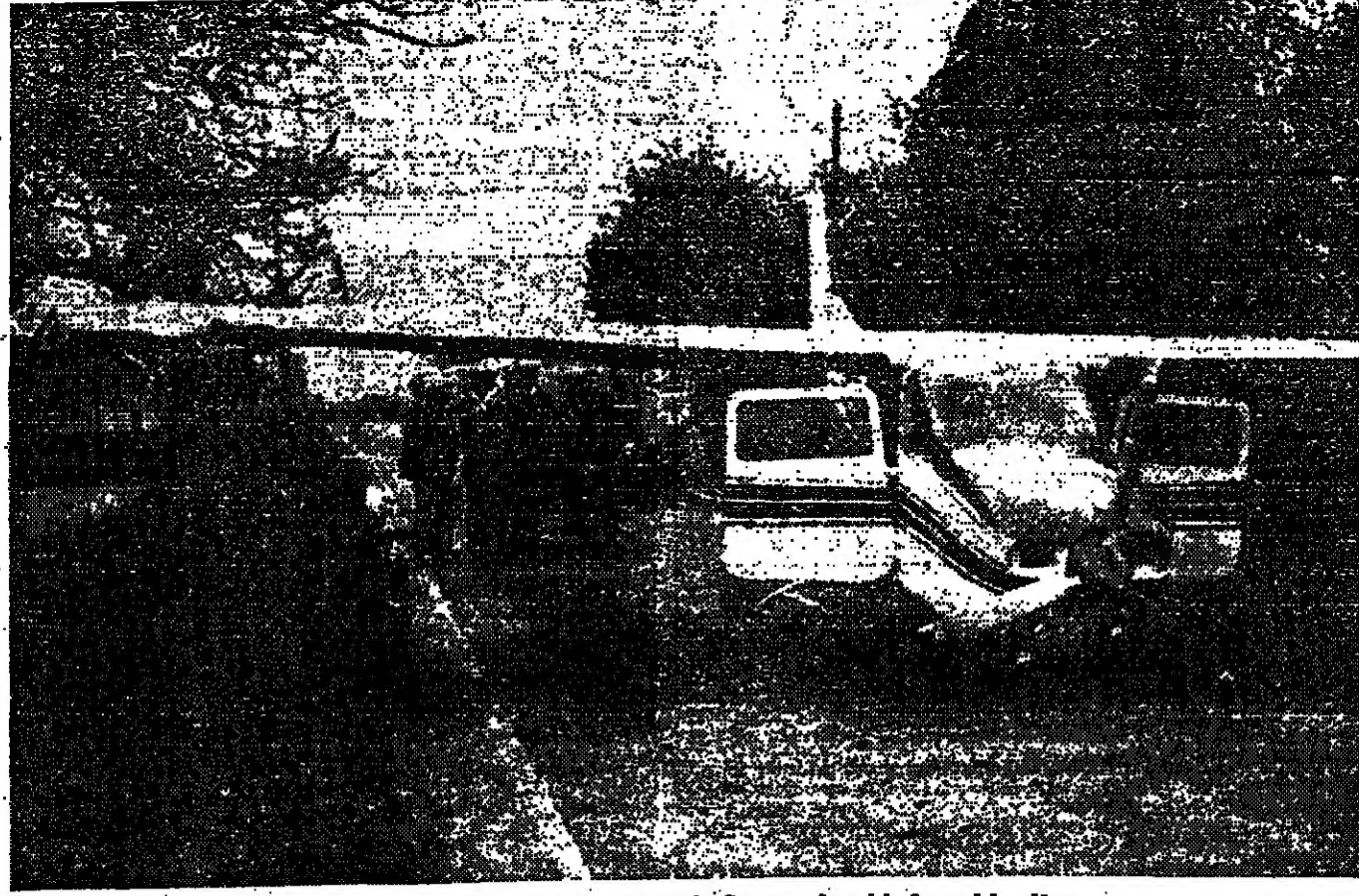
He estimates his dismissal by British Rail should bring about £80,000 in compensation, but says: "I do not want money. I want a fulfilling job back, which would be cheaper for the country. That could be done, anything can be done if they put their minds to it."

Under the Government's proposals compensation will be calculated on the sum an industrial tribunal would have awarded at the time of the dismissal had there been no interest. Factors such as length of service will be taken into account, but the maximum compensation anyone is likely to receive is about £7,000.

That compares with the maximum of £16,910 available for similar cases under the Employment Act, 1980. The measure will not affect cases of dismissal for refusing to join a closed shop.

The "British Rail Three", who won their case at the European Court of Human Rights, are to be compensated by the Government with substantial five-figure sums, which have still to be settled.

Cases such as those of the four Walsall school dinner staff and Miss Joanna Harris, the poultry inspector dismissed by Sandwell Council, will also not be compensated, as they were dismissed after the Conservatives' Employment Act, 1980, came into force, which gives



The bent propeller on Gary Numan's Cessna after his forced landing.

Pop star's aircraft lands on busy road

A single-engine Cessna aircraft, with Gary Numan the pop singer, and Mr Tony Webb, his father, on board, crashed-landed on a busy road at Botley, near Southampton, yesterday.

They, with Mr Timothy Steggle, the captain, and Mr Bill Fowler, a record company executive, escaped injury. The four were returning from a music festival in Cannes when the aircraft developed trouble.

Cars made emergency stops as it came in under power cables, its wings straddling hedges on each side of the A301. The aircraft ploughed to a stop almost on the front doorstep

of a house beside the road. Mr Peter Nash, the landlord of a public house near by, said: "It's incredible that it got down safely. It just belly-flopped, blocking the whole road."

A fireman said: "I would have said it was absolutely impossible to land a plane there. It was marvellous piloting."

After recovering from the shock of the forced landing Gary Numan said: "We had an alternator failure, then the engine began to alter. We switched fuel tanks, but we may have had a fuel blockage."

"We should have had two hours of fuel left in the plane when we came down. When we

left France we had seven hours' endurance, and had only been flying for five hours."

He added: "We were trying to get into Southampton Airport, and had to make an emergency landing at RAF Odiham, Hampshire."

On a recent attempt to circle the world in the same aircraft he made a forced landing in a military area in India and was held in custody for 48 hours.

The Indian experience ended the singer's first round-the-world attempt. When he tried again his aircraft was grounded near the Arctic Circle with an oil leak, and then in Pakistan. He had to fly to Britain and back for a replacement part.

ing what had just happened."

Only a week ago Gary Numan ran into bad weather on a test flight from Wisley, Surrey, and had to make an emergency landing at RAF Odiham, Hampshire.

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Court order ends sit-in at BL plant

Workers at the BL lorry and tractor factory at Basingstoke, West Lothian, Scotland, ended a week-long sit-in yesterday after the court ordered them to leave. As the workers left the factory they said the fight to save jobs there would continue.

Members of the workers' action committee had been occupying it for a week. The factory had been at a standstill because of a strike that started over proposals by the company to make 1,300 workers redundant.

Leyland is planning to cut more than 4,000 jobs in its lorry and bus division, 1,300 of them at Basingstoke, which employs 3,600 men. Tractor production there is to be sold off to a private company in Lincolnshire. The other job losses are to be in Lancashire, where 8,400 men are on strike at the company's Leyland and Chorley factories over the proposals.

Earlier yesterday the company won an interim interdict at the Court of Session, Edinburgh, ordering the members of the strike committee to leave the factory. The company said the continuing occupation might cause serious damage and was delaying the introduction of a new model.

Tax concessions in FitzGerald package

From Richard Ford, Dublin

The Cabinet of Dr Garret FitzGerald's coalition Government met for most of yesterday after it became clear that the Labour Party would not fight the general election campaign on a joint ticket with their Fine Gael partners.

But in an obvious attempt to make it easier for Labour MPs and party workers to defend the tough Budget proposals at the hustings, part of a key proposal was dropped. But Labour could not get concessions on the proposal to withdraw subsidies on butter and milk.

However, there is a price to be paid and if returned the Government will increase the cost of beer, spirits and cigarettes at double the foreign holiday levy.

In a statement issued at Leinster House, where the Daily news, the Government conceded that if it was re-elected the controversial plan to introduce value-added tax at 18 per cent for the first time on footwear and clothing would not apply to articles for children under the age of ten.

To pay for the concessions, the Government would put an extra 2p on 20 cigarettes, bring-

ing to 13½p the increase on a packet of 20 cigarettes, 2p on a pint of beer, making a total increase of 6½p, and 2p on a measure of spirits, making a 10½p increase.

The offer of an "amnesty" to anyone who has given information to the security forces about the IRA has been made by that organization. Anyone who tells the IRA how the information was given and what was passed on will escape punishment the IRA said yesterday.

An appeal to Northern Ireland politicians to give the Government's tentative proposals for a devolved Government in the province a chance of succeeding was made last night by Mr John Patten, Under Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Mr James Prior, Northern Ireland Secretary, and Senator James Donaghy, Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs, met for talks in London yesterday on political, economic security matters (a correspondent writes). It was the first meeting at ministerial level of the Anglo-Irish Inter-Governmental Council.

Hillhead's Tory is undaunted

From John Withrow Glasgow

Mr Gerald Malone, the solicitor selected by the Conservatives to defend Glasgow Hillhead, against the by-election challenge of Mr Roy Jenkins and the Liberal-SDP Alliance, would not welcome being described as a cannon fodder for the southern "carpet bagger".

He does have some experience of playing David to Goliath. In 1979 he successfully challenged Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, for the Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles seat, and in the next two months he will be trying to throw off the advance of Mr Jenkins, who is seeking to overturn a Conservative majority of 2,000.

Mr Malone, aged 31, is a self-confident man. He was described by a leading Conservative as "a bright, able and thrusting young candidate". His selection on Thursday night came as something of a surprise. The apparent favourite, Mr Leonard Turpie, was not even in the final selection process.

Choosing his words carefully, he told his first press conference yesterday that he was not daunted by Mr Jenkins. "He is a man of considerable political stature, but at the end of the day this election is not going to be decided by the individual status of the candidate: it is going to be about policies."

Mr Wedgwood Benn yesterday carefully left open the door for a challenge by him for leadership or deputy leadership of the Labour Party before the next general election (Philip Webster writes).

During an interview on independent television's *After Noon* Plus programme in which he adamantly declined to say that he would not be standing again, Mr Benn appeared to be suggesting that his position was dependent on the Labour leadership's fulfilling certain conditions, adding that in any case the decision was not for him alone to make.

Danger in stored breast milk

By Annabel Ferriman Health Services Correspondent

Indiscriminate use of stored human breast milk for premature babies has been attacked as ill advised by Dr Robert Barrie, consultant paediatrician at the Charing Cross Hospital, London.

Writing in this week's *Lancet*, he says: "The cavalier feeding of unsterile, unsupplemented breast milk to small, premature babies in the blind faith that it is full of natural goodness and antibacterial protection of unsurpassable potency should be strongly condemned."

Modified milks used for artificial feeding are safe and convenient and even the smallest premature babies thrive on them, he says.

Premature babies fed on expressed breast milk grow less well than those given a modified cows' milk formula, thus giving rise to concern about later physical and intellectual development.

Babies who grow more slowly leave hospital later, ironically jeopardizing the hoped for establishment of natural breastfeeding, perhaps one of the main reasons for using breast milk in the first instance.

Premature babies being given only expressed breast milk suffer from a lack of sodium, protein and calories, though these deficiencies can be avoided by adding certain minerals and vitamins.

Dr Barrie praises the guide to setting up human milk banks for premature babies produced by a committee set up by the Department of Health and Social Security. The number of reported cases of whooping cough is continuing to rise. The provisional total for the week ended January 22 was 1,150, compared to 701 and 853 in the two preceding weeks. The total for the first three weeks of the year was 2,704 compared with 1,751 and 933 for the same periods in 1980 and 1981 respectively. The figures suggest that an epidemic is developing, which can last 18 months.

Science report

Plant that can kill the cattle tick

By the Staff of "Nature"

Tropical and subtropical agriculture may benefit substantially from an Australian discovery that two species of a South American pasture legume will kill off the larvae of cattle ticks. The authors of the research, scientists working for the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, suggest that growing the leguminous plants together with more conventional pasture grasses would substantially reduce the population of cattle ticks.

For ticks to infect animals such as cattle, their larvae must first climb up the stalks of foliage, whence they are transferred to their hosts by contact. Robert W. Sutherst, Raymond J. Jones and Herbert Scherzinger say that the tick larvae may lie in wait in pasture plants for several weeks before being picked up by a passing animal. They are transformed into adult ticks only when established on animal tissue.

That some plants are hostile environments for tick larvae is well known, but the discovery that two species of leguminous plants, the *Stylosanthes* and *Stylosanthes*, have only a small effect on the survival of tick larvae. But two species of leguminous plants, the *Stylosanthes* and *Stylosanthes*, have only a small effect on the survival of tick larvae.

The plants concerned, which, like other legumes, are able to turn nitrogen from the atmosphere into usable chemicals, are potentially a nutritious supplement to herbage grasses. Both of the species tested in Queensland produced sticky secretions which trap the larvae of animal ticks.

The surprise in what has now been done, however, is simply because they are so simple. The plants, which are not killed by the secretion from the plant. The chemical identity of this material has not been established, but there is at least a chance that the time could come when pasture could be fumigated to remove ticks.

Even planting *Stylosanthes* plants should by itself be beneficial. It is calculated that the density of tick larvae might be reduced by a factor of 10 per cent by a sufficient density of leguminous plants, which are said to grow well in tropical and subtropical regions.

Source: *Nature*, Volume 295, page 320 (28 January 1982).

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UMIST VOTE TO CUT 360 POSTS

By Diana Geddes Education Correspondent

The court of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology (Umist) yesterday approved an academic plan involving cuts among departments ranging from 3 per cent to more than 40 per cent, and a loss of 360 academic and non-academic posts.

Umist is believed to be the first university institution whose plan for selective cuts and redundancies has passed the final hurdle of approval by the court. The institute's plan has been approved by 25 votes to 14 by its academic board and also by its council.

Two weeks ago academics at the institute passed a vote of no confidence in Professor R. N. Hazeldine, the principal, for the way he had handled the crisis. Umist's grant is to be cut by 30 per cent by the Government and that is expected to lead to a 24 per cent cut in its income.

The Institute of Orthodontics within London University agreed in the High Court yesterday to suspend for two weeks the effect of notice terminating the employment of three of its lecturers to give the lecturers time to decide whether to opt for compensation under the new redundancy scheme for staff academics, or whether to stay in the High Court action against the institute for breach of contract.

The three lecturers claim that their contracts give them security of tenure in the institute until retirement at 65. Last October they were given three months' notice by the institute, which was due to expire on January 31.

The second sentence in our report yesterday on supplementary benefits for school-leavers should have read: "The Government has found no evidence to suggest that the new rules on supplementary examination candidates from staying on to gain qualifications." The word "no" was omitted.

Overseas selling prices Austria 28; Belgium 28; Denmark 28; France 28; Germany 28; Italy 28; Japan 28; Netherlands 28; Norway 28; Sweden 28; Switzerland 28; United Kingdom 28; United States 28; West Germany 28; Yugoslavia 28.

TEST TUBE DONATION DEFENDED

Mr Patrick Steptoe and Dr Robert Edwards, who pioneered the test tube baby technique, last night defended the idea of giving spare human embryos to unrelated infertile couples. They made it clear, however, that they had not yet contemplated carrying out such an operation, which required careful assessment.

Mr Steptoe and Dr Edwards made clear their views in a statement to the Press Association. It follows press comment on embryo transfer, and the decision by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists to set up a committee of doctors to examine test tube baby techniques.

The statement said: "In the rare event where neither husband nor wife can provide their own sperm or egg, a family could be established by embryo transfer, with or without the help of freezing. We believe this step would be acceptable provided certain precautions are taken."

"There must be careful selection of the donor parents and a full appraisal of the motivation of the recipient couple, just as practised by adoption agencies now, and within the framework of current legislation."

Store challenge to cheap fares on rates

A writ was served on Merseyside County Council yesterday to challenge its demand for an extra £11m from ratepayers to help to pay for reduced bus fares. Permission to challenge the rate was granted to Great Universal Stores, which owns Times Furnishing in Birkenhead and Liverpool, by Mr Justice Hodgson in the High Court on Wednesday, and preliminary hearings will be held in the Divisional Court in London next Tuesday. When Labour won control of the council last May it threw out a plan by the previous administration to raise bus fares by 15 per cent and instead decided to cut fares by 10 per cent. That cost £2.5m and the extra £11m in the pound rate bill levied also covered the cost of abandoning substantial cuts in services, according to county council leaders.

The Liberal-controlled Liverpool City Council refused to send out the supplementary demands and had threatened to challenge the county council, but no steps have been taken. Recently the House of Lords outlawed a supplementary rate to cover the cost of cheaper bus and Tube fares levied by the Greater London Council.

Left-wing Labour councillors on the GLC called yesterday for a mass boycott of London Transport's bus and Tube fares if they are increased in March (Robin Young writes).

Mr John McDonnell, GLC councillor for Hayes and Harrington, suggested printing alternative tickets and slips explaining that passengers were refusing to pay the excess fare, so that the London Transport system would grind to a snail's pace and the Government would be forced to intervene.

Thirteen Labour councillors have signed a declaration supporting the "Can't pay - won't pay" initiative, which Mr McDonnell said would urge Londoners to action "which is certainly illegal but by no means immoral".

Mr Kenneth Livingstone, Labour leader of the GLC, is not among the signatories, but Mr David West, chairman of the GLC transport committee, is.

Mr West said yesterday: "I am convinced this drastic last-ditch campaign will not be necessary. But we are saying that we are prepared to break the law in protest against a legal decision which was politically biased and undemocratic."

"Withholding payment is very much a traditional way of protest in this country. I will not hesitate to get involved if necessary, but it will be for individuals to make their own decision."

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Mr Justice Bush came down heavily on three young rapists yesterday. Rejecting defence pleas that one of them should be sent to borstal and the others be placed in council care, he said: "I have to mark the fact that society will not tolerate such conduct."

He said that the youths' names could be published "in order that it may deter others".

Two of the youths, Christopher Noble, aged 15, and Charles Harley, aged 16, were sentenced to three years' detention. Mark Anthony Priest, aged 17, was jailed for three years. All three admitted rape.

Mr Peter Joyce, for the prosecution at Nottingham Crown Court, said the girl and the youths lived in a council-run children's home.

Trials for Polaris with new warhead

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

A fresh series of trials involving Britain's Polaris missiles with their controversial new Chevaline warhead are expected this week-end on the American test range off Cape Canaveral.

There will be at least two firings from HMS Renown, one of the Royal Navy's four ballistic missile submarines, and the first to be equipped with Chevaline when it comes into operational service this year.

If successful, those could constitute the navy's acceptance trials, certainly the last for Renown before it takes Chevaline to sea on its next patrol. HMS Revenge will be the next to be refitted, at the Navy's nuclear arms depot at Coulport, Scotland.

Each of Renown's two crews will fire the new-looking Polaris, the first being the so-called Starboard crew under Commander P. B. Ryan, who will hand over to the Port crew under Commander D. L. P. Evans. The Starboard team took Renown to the range this week, and their colleagues will sail her back.

There have been 13 development trials, but none since November, 1980. That last series disclosed difficulties over the separation process when the warheads and decoys are detached, and more firings planned for last summer were cancelled. Now scientists believe they have corrected the fault.

Chevaline has been a controversial subject ever since Mr Francis Pym, then Secretary of State for Defence, disclosed details of the programme in January, 1980, and admitted to a cost of £1,000m. Since then the bill has continued to rise.

Apart from the cost, however, few experts inside or outside the Ministry of Defence now consider the project to have been necessary.

Moscow is the only city in the Soviet Union that has any ballistic missile defences. But proponents of Chevaline argued in the early 1970s that Britain needed to ensure that Polaris could penetrate to its Moscow targets until it was replaced by a more advanced system, such as Trident.

The growing number of critics point out, however, that the ability to hit Moscow is not essential to make the deterrent effective, and that even if it were, Polaris could still probably do the job, with or without Chevaline.



Families from the threatened homes, with Mynydd James in the background.

No welcome for a hillside on the move

Even from a distance Mynydd James looks menacing; oak trees grow at absurd angles, new streams appear to trace silver furrows down the sparse slopes, and huge boulders, shed from the cliff face by immense pressures within the mountain, perch dangerously over the town of Blaenau (Tim Jones writes from Gwent).

Since most people can remember, the mountain has been moving, but now its march has accelerated and 89 families have been told they should be rehoused while engineers attempt to control the advance.

Lying in their beds the families can hear the mountain cracking as it pushes huge banks of earth and debris nearer their properties. Most

families live in neat, well kept terrace houses and despite the danger are extremely reluctant to leave. The position is complicated by the submission of the local authorities and the National Coal Board (NCB) that the movement of Mynydd James is an act of God; therefore no one is legally responsible.

Gwent County Council estimates that a £3m scheme might halt the slide and is trying to secure aid from the NCB and the Welsh Office. While the financial sparring continues, the residents of Bourneville Road, where 60 homes are said to be highly at risk, are convinced the blame lies with the coal board.

Over the decades shafts were driven into the mountainside until it

resembled a piece of fossilized gorgonzola cheese. Locals claim that millions of gallons of water is trapped inside, straining to burst out. The board denies responsibility, claiming that the movement is part of a natural geological fault.

Mr Alan Williams, whose home is under threat, said: "We believe the board accepted responsibility for the slippage some years ago when they repaired free of charge some houses in the terrace which had been damaged by cracks."

An NCB spokesman said: "Mining is one of many factors thought to have played a part in the processes at work; but its extent and effect are not precisely identifiable."

NEWS IN SUMMARY

BBC series computers to cost more

People buying the micro-computers to be used in conjunction with a BBC television series will have to pay more for the two models from next Monday. Delivery delays have been caused by a shortage of components (Kenneth Gosling writes).

The basic model will now cost £299, an increase of £54. Customers who have placed orders or place them before next Monday will pay the original prices. The BBC and the suppliers, Acorn Computers Ltd, said yesterday that the original pricing structure had proved too optimistic.

So far 12,000 people have placed orders for the computers, the use of which will be explained in a series of programmes starting next month. They are already being seen by schools and colleges. Inquiries about the project are reaching the BBC at the rate of 1,000 a day.

Production increases should make it possible for all outstanding orders to be cleared by the end of March, the BBC and Acorn said.

New centre for police studies

A centre for police studies, the first of its kind in Britain, is to be set up in the department of administration at Strathclyde University, Glasgow.

The department has been involved over the past 10 years in drawing up police management courses at the Scottish Police College in Stirlingshire. Degree and diploma courses in organizational analysis are planned for serving police officers, and consultancy services to individual forces in the United Kingdom will be offered.

The centre aims to promote a wider understanding of "the problems and dilemmas of policing in a democratic society".

Detective reinstated

Det. Chief Inspector Maurice Garmston, aged 43, of the Humberside police, who was cleared of incitement to burglary at York Crown Court on Thursday, was reinstated yesterday. Mr Garmston was suspended two years ago when the investigation began.

Detention, jail for rapists

From Our Correspondent, Nottingham

Mr Justice Bush came down heavily on three young rapists yesterday. Rejecting defence pleas that one of them should be sent to borstal and the others be placed in council care, he said: "I have to mark the fact that society will not tolerate such conduct."

He said that the youths' names could be published "in order that it may deter others".

Two of the youths, Christopher Noble, aged 15, and Charles Harley, aged 16, were sentenced to three years' detention. Mark Anthony Priest, aged 17, was jailed for three years. All three admitted rape.

Mr Peter Joyce, for the prosecution at Nottingham Crown Court, said the girl and the youths lived in a council-run children's home.

The girl was going to an evening class and the boys to a cadet meeting.

"She was worried and it was clear that the boys would escort her home but while crossing some fields she was grabbed and forced to the ground. Noble and Priest each held an arm and leg, and Harley raped her."

Leanne Parfitt, aged 22, a British Rail trackman who raped a woman, and later indecently assaulted a girl aged 14 while on bail for the rape, was jailed for eight years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Parfitt, of Cosedge Crescent, Croydon, was found guilty of raping a stranded woman traveller at East Croydon station. After his arrest he was bailed, but indecently assaulted a girl less than three weeks later.

Suspended sentence for Rosie Swale

Rosie Swale, the round the world yachtswoman, was given a 15-month suspended jail sentence yesterday for burglary at a village shop near her cottage in west Wales.

Tracey Stamp, aged 45, a former merchant sealer, was given a three-month suspended sentence for the same offences. Both sentences were suspended for two years.

Judge Charles Pitchford, sentencing the couple at Newport Crown Court, Gwent, said that they had been guilty of "deliberate and cunning offences", but he was prepared to give them another chance to lead better lives.

Swale and Stamp had been in custody for six weeks after they were found guilty

at Swansea after a 10-day trial.

They stole food, drink and cigarettes in several raids on a village shop near their home, Cape Horn Cottage, at Pen-florid, near Haverfordwest, Dyfed.

The judge told Swale: "I think that what you have given in your earlier adventurous life and the courage you have shown deserves some credit." But the couple had stolen from local people who had befriended and trusted them.

"I am glad that the weeks spent in prison have brought you face to face with the realities and consequences of criminal action," the judge said. "I only hope that what I am going to do will not be just one step towards your future degradation in or out of jail."

Counsel for Stamp said that she had learnt a lesson after nearly six weeks in custody and was no longer so dependent on Swale.

Swale said after the hearing: "It was horrible in the remand prison and I am glad to be out. My main task at the moment is to find my two children. I have not seen them for so long, and I am very concerned about them."

Golf course murder

Police in West Yorkshire said yesterday that the case of a boy whose body was found on a golf course at Wakefield on Thursday was being treated as murder.

Mark Bowers, of Manor Haigh Road, Lupset, Wakefield, was found with severe head injuries.

Breakdown men listened to police messages

Police became suspicious when six breakdown vehicles arrived at the scene of a road accident in a side street a few minutes after a police radio broadcast concerning the incident.

Investigations showed that the drivers were using wireless telegraphy equipment with intent to obtain information as to the contents of police messages. At Hendon Magistrates' Court, in London, yesterday three men were sentenced under the Wireless Telegraphy Act.

Paul O'Reilly, of Crickwood, Leonard Douglas Leathers, of Hendon, London, were each fined £200 with £40 costs. Richard Chew, of Oakley, Hampshire, was fined £100 with £30 costs.

"I thought I had done a fair amount of juggling with figures as an accountant. But when it came to the 'massaging' and 'fudging' I learned as Chief Secretary, I realised I had been a babe in arms"

Starting this week in the Sunday Times Business News, Joel Barnett, Chief Secretary to the Treasury from 1974 to 1979, tells the inside story of the Labour Cabinet's battles over pay, public spending, and a sinking pound.



In the Sunday Times Business News tomorrow, everything that counts - and a couple of things that don't add up.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Most Sunday papers talk business. Only one has always made a separate issue of it.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Angola may release mercenaries

Angola yesterday held out a possibility that the seven British mercenaries imprisoned since the civil war in the mid-1970s might be released before they have served their full sentences of between 16 and 30 years (David Cross writes).

Mr Luis de Almeida, the Angolan ambassador to France, said in London it was "very possible" that Luanda might decide to be generous towards the seven Britons and two Americans imprisoned on similar charges. He said he did not know, however, how soon their release might be.

Arrest in envoy murder case

Los Angeles. — Within a few hours of the murder of Mr Kemal Arkan, the Turkish Consul-General here, police arrested a young man, aged 19, and charged him with the killing (Ivor Davis writes).

Radiation leak in laboratory

Ottawa. — Thirty-five employees of a Canadian atomic energy laboratory were accidentally exposed to radioactive contamination when an air ventilator broke down.

Dispute settled on Czech gold

Prague. — The United States, Britain and Czechoslovakia have reached agreement on a 35-year dispute over restitution of some 18.5 tons of gold stolen from Czechoslovakia by the Nazis during the Second World War.

Dacca MPs to meet

Dacca. — President Abdus Sattar summoned the Bangladesh Parliament to meet for the winter session on February 15. It will be the first session after the assassination of President Zia ur-Rahman last May in an unsuccessful army coup attempt.

Sea Treaty move

Washington. — Mr Norman d'Amours, chairman of a key House of Representatives committee, says President Reagan has decided to resume United States participation in negotiations to draft an international law of the sea treaty.

Gunman killed

San Francisco. — A man killed two people and wounded seven when he opened fire with a rifle in a crowded office building before being shot dead by police. He was not named.

Poland tense as rise in food prices approaches

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 29

The Polish authorities are approaching next week's food price rises with considerable anxiety amid reports that several groups of workers are planning go-slows or other forms of industrial protest from Monday.

Travellers arriving from the port of Gdansk say that at least one shipyard — the Lenin yard, birthplace of the Solidarity union — will be shut down by the authorities on Monday and possibly Tuesday to head off the possibility of unrest.

The militia presence in Warsaw has been particularly evident over the past 24 hours and some soldiers at roadblocks have put bayonets back on their rifles. Unofficial sources say that some form of police round-up is expected over the weekend with the aim of temporarily detaining any potential protest organizers.

Apart from Gdansk, where the atmosphere is reported to be tense, unofficial reports say that protests are planned in some Wroclaw factories and in the Ursus tractor factory in the Warsaw suburbs.

The protest will almost certainly be in the form of go-slows which are difficult to monitor by the authorities and which are not, strictly speaking, illegal unless it can be proved that they have been organized by specific people.

Today there were long queues — even longer than usual — outside food shops as people sought to stockpile before the price rises come into effect on Monday. Many complaints overheard in the queues centred on the price of meat.

Although economically sound, many of the price rises seem to be calculated to cause maximum psychological reaction among ordinary shoppers. Thus the cheap meat staples such as sausage will be subject to the most dramatic increases (400 per cent for most varieties of sausage).

Above all, the authorities fear a repetition of street unrest that has accompanied other food price increases in 1970, which led to the overthrow of Mr Wladyslaw Gomulka and in 1976, militia troops and riot police were called in to quell the riots in five central Warsaw hotels and have been driving their vehicles with flashing lights throughout most of the day though they seem to have no specific destination.

The police are likely to stay on alert all week because students are due back in the universities on February 4 and the combination of large congregations of young people with worker discontent over food price rises might well prove to be explosive.

However there seems to be little chance of immediate rioting on the scale of previous years, partly because of the strength of the military presence but also because the real effects will not be felt for at least a week.

Most poles supplement their ration entitlement with selective buying on the private markets where they can obtain food that is often unavailable in the state shops. But the prices on the private markets are likely to take off during the course of the week.

Economy slides into chaos

Warsaw, Jan 29. — Poland's national income slumped back last year to its 1974 level, with a 13 per cent fall in income level for 1981, according to government statistics released today.

It was the third successive year of decline for what communist governments call the "Produced National Income", roughly their equivalent of gross national product as a measure of their economies.

The figures, contained in the annual review of the economy, prompted the party paper *Trybuna Ludu* to speak of chaos on a colossal scale. "The economy, in order to emerge from the crisis for good, needs primarily peace and order, brought about by deliberate and consistent action, calculated for the long-term," the paper said.

"First steps towards this goal have already been taken," it added. National income dropped by 2 per cent in 1979 and 4 per cent in 1980, the year growing labour unrest and strikes began to shake the country's economic and political foundations.

Today's report said overall industrial output last year fell by 19 per cent and market supplies were down by 11 per cent. The "nominal monetary incomes" of Poles rose by 31 per cent while the cost of living jumped by 25 per cent.

In its commentary *Trybuna Ludu* said: "One can hardly resist the impression that the processes which took place in our economy were governed more by the forces of unchecked inertia and accident than by well thought-out activity, that economic phenomena were being shaped by the unparadigmatic political struggle rather than by economic laws, mechanisms and prudence."

The report said disruptive developments in the economy whipped up inflationary trends and aggravated disorganization of the domestic market. But it did not go into details on this.

Food and consumer supplies were short throughout 1981, and there now is rationing of meat, sugar, butter, flour, cereals and soap.

The report said Poland had a trade deficit of £1,100m in 1981. Exports were down by 14.6 per cent while imports fell by 12.2 per cent. But the trade deficit with the West was reduced to £300m from £400m.

However, its overall deficit with other communist countries more than doubled, reaching £1,100m. The deficit with the Soviet Union alone amounted to £1,090m.

Trade with developing nations moved into a surplus of £315m from a deficit of £65m.

Poland's foreign debt when money was last declared amounted to \$25,500m (£1,350m) and 3,300m roubles (£2,462m).

The report said overall agricultural output rose in 1981, with better grain and root crops, but animal production declined because of cuts in grain and feed imports.

Grain imports totalled 7.2 million tonnes, and food imports were up by nearly a third, the report said.

Chad ready to talk with rebels

By Our Foreign Staff
The Chad Government is ready to negotiate with the rebel forces of Hissene Habre, but not with their leader, Mr Ahy Abamat, the Foreign Minister, has confirmed.

The rebels are reported to have regained ground since the withdrawal last year of a Libyan force which has come to bolster the army of President Goukouni Oueddei. Before the Libyans arrived the forces of Mr Habre, the former Defence Minister had taken large areas of Eastern Chad.

The Libyans this week accused Washington of deploying troops among the fighting forces in Chad and threatened to take action.

"Libya, which previously decided not to send military forces (to Chad) even if requested to do so, cannot stand firm with its arms folded towards the presence of American forces in Chad," a statement from Tripoli said.

Washington denied the charge. In December four US transport aircraft delivered to Zaire an ambulance, tents and rations for the Zairean troops in the force. The military personnel who made the delivery had returned to the United States, the US Defence Department said.

Mr Daniel Arap Moi, chairman of the Organization of African Unity, has made a statement deploring the fact that some African countries had not fulfilled their promise to send troops.

Chancellor threatens to resign over jobs

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Jan 29

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, has threatened to resign if leaders of his Social Democratic-Free Democratic (SPD-FPD) coalition cannot agree on an unemployment programme, it was disclosed today.

The Chancellor's move was apparently designed to compel the coalition leaders to reach a decision after a long inconclusive debate about how to finance the scheme. In theory, they were supposed to have a plan ready for Cabinet approval next Wednesday, but they still look as far from agreement as when they began talks nearly two weeks ago.

Both parties agree that, with unemployment expected to reach the 1,900,000 mark at the end of this month, a job-creation programme is essential.

But, while Herr Hans Matifer (SPD), the Finance Minister, favours an increase in the tax on petrol and mineral oil, the Social Democrats as a whole — and apparently the Chancellor himself — would like to bring forward a planned increase in value added tax. Count Otto

Lambsdorf, the Economics Minister, who first favoured the VAT option, has now changed his mind but nevertheless is opposed to an oil tax.

The Chancellor's threat, made in the course of this week's discussions, was disclosed today by Herr Herbert Wehner, the SPD Bundestag floor leader. He said that the Chancellor has given a warning that, if the parties cannot overcome their differences and produce a programme of guidelines for the coming years, within the framework of the Government's annual economic report (to be issued next week) "they can do it without me".

This is the second issue on which Herr Schmidt has threatened to resign. He has also threatened to resign if the Social Democrats withdraw their support for the Nato deploy-and-negotiate missile policy, they will have to find another Chancellor.

The Social Democrats, whose popularity is at an all-time low, know that without him the coalition's days would be numbered.

Anti-ice mechanism off when jet crashed

From Michael Hamlyn, New York, Jan 29

An anti-icing device was turned off in the engine of the Air Florida Boeing 737 when it crashed in Washington on Friday.

Mr Francis McAdams, a member of the National Transportation Safety Board, said yesterday: "The preliminary investigation indicates that the engine anti-ice system was off at the time of impact. We have not determined whether it had been used during the pre-takeoff ground operation."

The Safety Board, which is investigating the crash that killed 74 of the 79 people on board and four people driving across the 14th St Bridge over the Potomac River, indicated that one of their concerns is a possible accumulation of ice around an inlet pressure probe (known as a P12).

If the tube of the probe was blocked with ice the crew would get a false reading of the flow of air into the engine, and would not realize that they were suffering a loss of power.

Mr McAdams said that although ground crews had de-iced the aircraft it waited at least another 45 minutes before taking off, and there was evidence that new ice may have formed.

The board issued its statement yesterday because of



Brazil has 16m needy children

One of the large numbers of needy children who present a problem of enormous dimensions in Brazil. An estimated 16 million are described as being on the margins of society and more than 100 children are abandoned in doorways or hospitals each month in Rio de Janeiro alone (Patrick Knight writes from Sao Paulo). The child

pictured above, homeless, is one of the luckier ones. He is in the care of an organization which tries to help the worst cases, the Foundation for the wellbeing of the Under aged (Febem). In Sao Paulo, the richest state in Brazil, where there are an estimated 400,000 needy children, Febem centres are responsible for some 80,000

Mubarak overture to Moscow

Cairo, Jan 29. — President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt was quoted today as saying that the Soviet Union would eventually have a role to play in the Middle East peace process and he envisaged a time when relations between Cairo and Moscow would return to normal (Reuter reports).

His statements, published by the semi-official newspaper *Al-Ahram*, gave fresh indications that Egypt wants to maintain a more balanced relationship with the superpowers than under President Anwar Sadat. *Al-Ahram* was quoting from an interview given by Mr Mubarak to Italian television to mark his visits to Western Europe and Washington.

Egypt's relations with the Kremlin have been bad since 1972 when Mr Sadat expelled 17,000 Soviet military and technical advisers and ordered a drastic pruning of Moscow's diplomatic staff here.

Mr Haig tour ends: Mr Alexander Haig, the American Secretary of State, ended his second Middle East tour in less than a fortnight today, having failed to inject the new momentum into the deadlocked talks on Palestinian autonomy for which he had hoped before he began his personal involvement in the process earlier this week (Christopher Walker writes from Cairo).

Behind the rhetoric which inevitably accompanies such whirlwind diplomatic visits, the enormous difficulties involved in reconciling the two sides were clearly visible. Mr Haig admitted today: "We have far more to do than we have achieved so far" and yesterday he said in Israel: "There are still more differences than there are agreements."

The most significant outcome of the latest round of talks is that Mr Haig has chosen after his two "fact-finding missions" to distance himself once again from the troubled negotiations.

He has made clear that he does not expect to return to the region in the near future, and responsibility for handling the talks will soon be handed to a new special negotiator, Mr Richard Fairbanks.

Although there have been public references to slight but unspecified progress over the past 48 hours, privately officials in both Israel and Egypt acknowledge that the problems of achieving even a paper agreement are now greater than ever.

While the Israelis had been anxious for an agreement on a broad "statement of principles" in advance of the April 26 withdrawal from Sinai, the Egyptians have expressed firm opposition to such a tactic. Instead, their public comments are now much more insistent that an acceptable form of autonomy should be aimed at leading toward self-determination for the Palestinians.

PONTI CLEARED

Rome. — Signor Carlo Ponti, the film producer, has been cleared of a charge of involving illegal export of currency. An appeal court ruled that he and two others had no case to answer. He was originally sentenced in his absence to four years' jail on currency charges in January, 1979.

EEC states grudgingly pay their contributions

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Jan 29

All ten EEC member states are going to pay in full their contributions to the 1982 community budget which fall due next week. But they will do so reluctantly because the budget, as it stands, is £116.5m more than they believe it should be.

This is a small enough sum of money alongside the £12,500m of the total budget, which why the members states today agreed to pay up rather than provoke another institutional crisis within the Community. Because they see an essential point of principle at stake, the governments are planning to take the European Court for a judicial ruling on just how much they should be paying.

The problem is that the European Parliament, which approved the 1982 budget last month, unilaterally extended its control into an area where the governments alone, through the Council of Ministers, believe they can decide on spending.

Although the £116.5m is small, the council is worried that it could set an expensive precedent which would be like to take the Parliament to court for overstepping its authority but Belgium, which is the current president of the Council, feels that this is legally impossible. Therefore it is seeking to organize urgent negotiations with Parliament to try to agree on a budget area which falls within Parliament's competence.

At the same time legal proceedings against the Commission, which has agreed to execute the 1982 budget as agreed by Parliament, would be started.

COMMONS

The very modest fines currently imposed by magistrates on meat rackers were like sticking a penny stake in a £1,000 contract, Mr Norman Atkinson (Haringey, Tottenham, Lab) said when moving the second reading of his Food and Drugs (Amendments) Bill, which would stiffen the penalties for dishonest food traders.

He said he was revolted to learn that some 2 per cent of the beef trade was probably not even inspected, and that £1,000 meat or even kangaroo. Once knacker meat was ground up and flavoured it could be dog, cat, canary or kangaroo and it was very difficult to detect.

The Bill would amend and strengthen the Food and Drugs Act 1955 by making meat mislabelling a serious offence, to be tried on indictment as well as summarily and by increasing penalties to £1,000 on summary conviction, or imprisonment for a maximum of two years on conviction on indictment. It would also revise time limits for prosecution to eliminate impediments to the work of meat inspectors and environmental health officers.

The Bill was a first attempt to bring the law on food and drugs into line with modern food technology. Up to now the penalties had been out of all proportion to the offence, and the law, even recent legislation, Fast Food and convenience foods were encouraging the most dubious manufacturing processes.

The Government should consider action on the staining of knacker meat, which has been sold for human consumption. Mr Peter Mills (West Devon, C), a farmer and founder member of one of the largest meat plants in the country, said that the knacker meat cooperative, said knacker meat should be stained with coloured dye so there could be no argument about it. The public had a right to be protected and know what they were eating and what was in their hamburgers.

Mr Philip Whitehead (Derby, North, Lab) said this was the age of the junk-burger and the fast food industry had now become so large a part of the retailing of meat products, if it was not stretching the English language to call them meat products, that there could be great rewards for the unscrupulous.

There was evidence from recent prosecutions not only of

Democrats seek end to Salvador arms aid

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Jan 29

Congressional efforts to end or severely restrict American military aid to El Salvador will be renewed next week.

President Reagan yesterday certified that the regime of President Duarte was making sufficient progress on political and human rights for it to qualify for around \$55m of American military and economic assistance.

But opposition to an attempt by the Administration to increase military aid to the regime which is increasingly hard-pressed by left-wing guerrillas is expected to be strong.

The State Department indicated yesterday the United States must be prepared to increase its assistance to repair the damage done to aircraft by a guerrilla attack on the airport at Ilopango last Wednesday.

However, a Democrat representative Mr Tom Harkin and Mr Gerry Studds have served notice they intend to introduce legislation next week to cut off all military aid to El Salvador.

And Senator Christopher Dodd, a Democratic member of the influential Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said in a press release the President's certification raised the ghost of Vietnam.

Senator Dodd was among a number of liberal senators instrumental in pushing for regular certification that

The Administration fought hard against having its hands tied in such a way and in defeat last year is regarded as one of the only significant setbacks it has received from Congress on foreign policy.

Senator Dodd said yesterday: "Certification cannot substitute for the facts and in the case of El Salvador the gap between the two is growing wider and deeper. El

The Duarte regime is planning elections in March and has recently made renewed efforts to pursue investigations of the killing of four American church women. Government soldiers were arrested last April for the killing and action against them soon came to a virtual standstill.

The State Department confirmed reports last night that France had sold bazookas and rockets to Nicaragua despite French assurances that action against them soon came to a virtual standstill.

The Washington Post in an article by its Paris correspondent disclosed earlier yesterday that French arms supplies to Nicaragua included Stinger-type bazookas and their rockets.

Mr Charles Hernu, the French Defence Minister, has denied that offensive weapons were included in the military equipment agreement, according to *Le Monde* today (AP reports).

PARLIAMENT January 29 1982

Bill to beat the unfit meat trade

the extent of unscrupulous racketeering but of the sheer paucity of the penalties available at the moment.

Mrs Peggy Fenner, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said the Government was able to support the Bill, and recognized the concerns that had led up to it. These had shown clearly that food safety was a matter of public concern and that the Government had a duty to act.

The Government had already recognised that the Food and Drugs Act 1955 had become seriously outdated because of inflation. The maximum fine of £100 had not been raised since the Act came into force.

The Government had been conducting a detailed examination of the legislation to see whether the controls on the use of meat and knacker meat needed to be changed.

One of the most significant changes the Government thought would be justified was for the introduction of a requirement to stain certain types of unfit and knacker meat. It had suggested that all carcasses must be passed through a staining process and, for human consumption at a slaughterhouse and all carcasses meat from knackers' yards should be stained before leaving the premises unless it had been sterilized.

This would not require unfit meat to be stained. No final conclusion had been reached on this matter. The Government did not wish to impose new requirements on the trade unless there was a clear need. The available evidence suggested that the malpractices had essentially concerned the diversion of unfit carcass meat into the human consumption market.

The Government had been conducting trials to identify types of stain which would be suitable for the purpose it had in mind. It had also issued ideas for other changes to back up the basic requirements of staining and to make it more difficult for the most important of these was the proposal for all movements of unfit and knacker meat to be subject to prior authorisation by the local authorities concerned and for movements to be notified subsequently to the local authority.

One of the main difficulties had been that unfit meat often travelled considerable distances across many local authority boundaries and it had been difficult for them to keep track of the movements and destinations of this material.

The system the Government envisaged would give local authorities much greater knowledge of the detailed movements of unfit meat and would allow systematic controls to be placed on the movements to check that it was reaching its stated destinations.

The Government also had in mind other amendments designed to ensure a more effective system of control, such as a requirement of all boxes holding unfit meat to be clearly marked as such and for more detailed records to be kept. Taken together, the changes it had in mind should do much to prevent malpractice and to ensure that unfit meat was not used for human consumption.

The Government was to introduce strict regulations to require varying labels on dangerous products, Mr Sally Oppenheim, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, said. The regulations would be extended to cover certain household products covered by EEC directives.

She was speaking during a second reading debate on the Dangerous Household Products (Child Safety) Packaging Bill, a private member's Bill, which was talked out.

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South Africans make new Namibia offer

From Michael Hornsby, Cape Town, Jan 29

South Africa is ready to move to the second phase of the negotiations on an internationally acceptable settlement in Namibia (South-West Africa), Mr Marais Viljoen, the South African State President said today at an opening of parliament in Cape Town.

The President said that the United Nations lack of impartiality on Namibia diminished the possibility of holding free and fair elections in the territory. An answer to this problem, as well as to other "vexing issues", would have to be found during the next phase of negotiations.

The South African Government, Mr Marais said, did not underestimate the formidable task ahead. The President did not say whether South Africa accepted all the constitutional principles proposed by the West for an independent Namibia as the first part of the settlement plan.

The set of principles, which include a bill of rights as well as a procedure for electing a constituent assembly, were circulated to South Africa, SWAPO (the guerrilla organization fighting for an independent Namibia) and the "front-line" black African states last autumn.

South Africa's willingness to link the next stage of negotiations, made fully today is seen as indicating broad satisfaction with the

Indonesia discounts Cambodian setback

From David Watts, Jakarta, Jan 29

Khmer Rouge rejection of the latest proposals for a coalition of opposition groups is expected to be only a temporary setback in the search for a Cambodian settlement, the Indonesian Foreign Secretary today told Lord Carrington, the first working day of his tour of the countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean).

Dr Mochtar Kusumatadja, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, told Lord Carrington during two hours of "excellent" talks that the Khmer Rouge rejection of a loose coalition proposed by Singapore, did not close that option though there was still a lot of work to be done in pursuit of the concept.

But though he assured Lord Carrington that Asean policy would not change there have been signals from Asean capitals in the last few days that suggest the policy is undergoing a thorough review.

The Indonesians, particularly, believe that there must now be a pause for reappraisal.

Though much of the first morning of his visit to Indonesia was taken up with bilateral political relations, the principal aim of Lord Carrington's tour, apart from expressing support for Asean is to build up trade and investment in the five countries.



Appointment in Moscow: M. Torrent is greeted by Mrs Inna Lavrova.

Visa follows hunger strike

Moscow, Jan 29 — A French engineer and a Soviet woman who ended her month-long hunger strike after he was allowed to visit her in Moscow were reunited today when in Guy Torrent flew from Cameroon.

Mrs Inna Lavrova said that she did not know how much time she would have together or if she would get an exit visa to live with Mr Torrent in France.

He and Mrs Lavrova met in 1976 in Paris where her husband was working at the time. She divorced her husband after their return to the Soviet Union.

Mrs Lavrova went on a hunger strike during the Christmas holidays to dramatise her request for a reunion with Mr Torrent, aged 54, who had been refused a visa for the Soviet Union for years. Mrs Lavrova was taken to hospital on January 20 after losing almost 33lb and was discharged on Sunday.

Mrs Lavrova, while trying to avoid the question, indicated that she felt the Soviet authorities had issued M. Torrent with a visa as a result of her hunger strike.

If this is so it would be the second time in two months that a hunger strike has been successful in obtaining a visa. Last month, Mrs Liza Alexeyeva won the right to leave and join her husband in the United States after her father-in-law, Andrei Sakharov, the physicist and Nobel prizewinner, and his wife conducted a hunger strike on her behalf.—AP.

Hungarians wary of praise from West

From Dossa Trevisan, Budapest, Jan 29

The cold winds blowing across East-West relations as a result of the Polish crisis have made it difficult for Hungary to pursue a distinct internal policy without sticking too much from the other Soviet block countries.

So far Mr Janos Kadar, the party leader, has managed successfully to keep a close relationship with Moscow and even to win recognition from President Brezhnev for the Hungarian way of making socialist work, which has clearly helped to cushion with economic reforms and maintain living standards.

Recently, when Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the Italian Communist Party leader, singled out Hungary as a positive example in support of his argument that there are real and qualitative differences between individual Soviet block countries, the Hungarians lost no time in reacting.

In a comment in the party newspaper, they distanced themselves from such tribute by saying that Hungary needed no praise that would confront it with other socialist countries.

A similar comment was made recently also in an interview with Mr Gyorgy Aczel, a Politburo member, about Western attitudes which, he said, approve of Hungarian economic reforms and liberal policies but also attempt to contrast it against the rest of the block.

Hungary, he emphasized, applied socialism to its own specific conditions and Western tactics were to drive a wedge between Hungary and the Soviet Union.

The Hungarians say, in fact, that a small country such as theirs cannot play a significant role in world politics. But it clearly connects the standard picture of the socialist world, with its inventive policy, which has been pursued for the past 15 years or more.

Detente, the argument goes, has done a great deal to loosen up East Europe, and the Hungarians see extreme dangers in the threat of sanctions extended to East Europe and in the attitude of President Reagan over Poland.

There is fear of a return to a cold war language and that economic sanctions would merely provide the hardliners in East Europe with support for their argument that economic cooperation with the West would make their countries more vulnerable to Western pressure.

It is clearly with this in mind that the Hungarians have been reacting angrily to Western statements on Poland.

There is, on the whole, not much sympathy for the Poles among Hungarians. Hungary is a consumer society and, at a time when it is also feeling the effects of world recession, is being called upon to work harder to maintain living standards.

Hungarians realize they are better off than most of the East European allies, and the average Hungarian has much to lose.

A paint to defeat radar trap

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Jan 29

A special metallic paint which has been developed in Japan to shield micro-ovens may be used to prevent radar beams from detecting the United States' new generation of Stealth bombers in future.

Officials in the American Embassy in Tokyo have already asked the firm, the TDK electronics company, to provide American scientists with samples of the ferrite paint which absorbs microwaves and radar beams. "If these experiments are successful it is possible that American bombers will not be detected by radar stations in future", a spokesman for the American embassy said.

A spokesman for TDK, one of Japan's leading manufacturers of cassette recording tapes, told *The Times* the paint was originally developed to contain electronic beams in micro-ovens.

"Eight years ago the Japan self-defence force recognised the military potential of the experiments and subsidized a joint research programme" a TDK official said.

However Japanese officials point out that TDK might be barred from providing the United States' armed forces with the technology for the paint under the terms of Japan's post-war constitution.

Defence scientists have been testing radar absorbent paints almost since the day after they perfected radar (our Defence Correspondent writes). The use of such materials, which absorb radar beams instead of reflecting them, is assumed to be among the principles involved in the American development of the Stealth bomber.

Brezhnev grieves for Suslov

Moscow, Jan 29 — President Brezhnev appeared emotionally shaken and was visibly weakened today as he saw the body of his closest Kremlin ally, Mikhail Suslov, lowered into a grave in Red Square next to Stalin.

Mr Brezhnev's speech before the burial was slurred. He was shuffling and he had to be supported several times.

"While saying goodbye to our comrade," he said, "I would like to tell him sleep peacefully our dear friend. You have lived through a big and glorious life. You have done much for the party and the people and they will preserve the bright memory of you."

Flanked by other Politburo members, Mr Brezhnev spoke from the Rostrum on the Lenin Mausoleum watched by thousands of spectators. Mr Suslov, who died of a stroke on Monday, aged 79, is only the ninth person to be buried in Red Square.

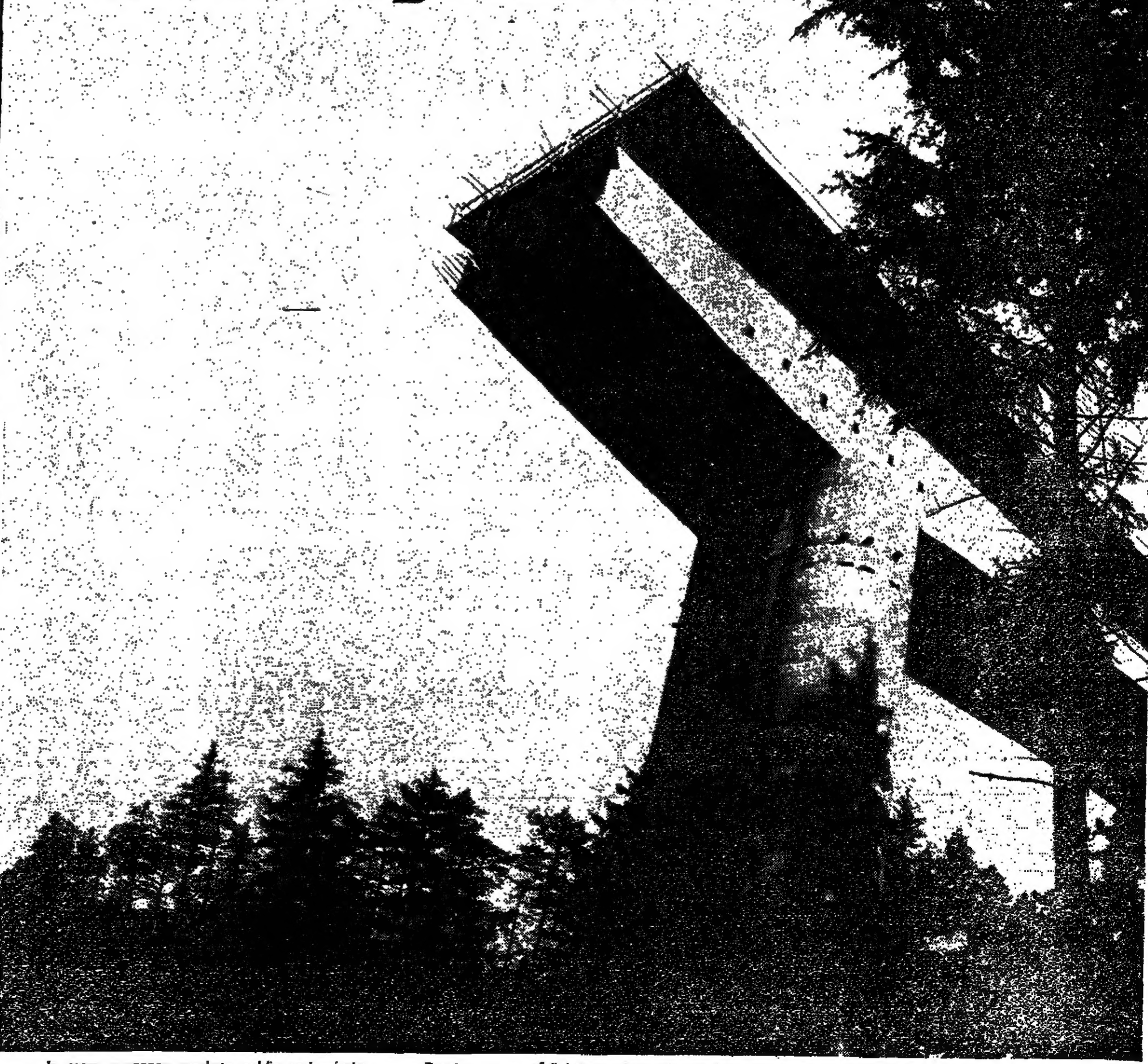
Mr Brezhnev was flanked by Mr Viktor Grishin, the Moscow Communist Party leader, and Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Prime Minister.

The funeral procession from the Palace of Unions began just before noon. An armoured personnel carrier pulled the caisson bearing the body.

The carriage was surrounded by goose-stepping soldiers as it moved towards Red Square. Family members followed in the procession, and before Mr Suslov was interred, bent over the open coffin to kiss his forehead.

They were followed in the procession by members of the Communist Party central committee and generals of the Soviet Army, carrying Mr Suslov's many medals and government awards.—AP.

What happens to your overseas contract if the money runs out?



Nuclear waste

Russian proposes dumping in space

By Gabriel Ronay

Dr Pyotr Kapitsa, the Cambridge-trained doyen of Soviet nuclear physicists, has brought into the open the mounting anxiety among younger scientists over the unsafe methods used in the Soviet Union for disposing of radioactive waste from nuclear plants and weapon tests.

His recent suggestion in a *Pravda* article that nuclear waste should be packed into rockets and dumped in outer space has appealed to ecology-conscious Soviet scientists, according to a Hungarian nuclear physicist just returned from the Soviet Union.

Dr Kapitsa, aged 87, who spent 13 years at the Cavendish Laboratory, is said to have been the brains behind the development of the fuel that put Russia's first Sputnik into orbit and to have played a key role in developing Russia's nuclear weapons.

His identification with the ecologists on the issue of disposal of radioactive waste has lent some respectability to their fight.

Concern over the long-term effects of the present ways of disposal of nuclear waste is particularly noticeable at the Academy of Sciences' Institute of Physical Problems in Moscow and at the Dubna Nuclear Research Institute, according to the Hungarian scientist.

Dr Kapitsa broached this delicate subject within the wider framework of the world energy crisis under the innocuous heading "Following the Laws of Physics".

While insisting that nuclear power offered the only long-term solution to the energy crisis, he pointed out there were unresolved technical problems.

"The fact of the matter is that wastes from uranium fission are highly radioactive and their effective disposal poses great technical problems", he wrote. "Perhaps the best thing would be to dispatch them by rocket into space, but as yet this is not being considered sufficiently reliable."

The problems posed by the accumulation of radioactive waste have not been publicized in the Soviet Union. One reason is that a number of grave accidents have been rumoured to have taken place. Dr Zhores Medvedev, the exiled Russian biochemist, claims that an explosion of nuclear wastes in the Urals in 1958 led to the contamination of vast areas between Chelyabinsk and Sverdlovsk and hundreds of deaths.

Some radioactive wastes in Russia are encased in bitumen or glass and then stored in underground chambers. But liquid wastes from Soviet nuclear power stations are deposited in deep, water-bearing seams isolated from the ground water. Some scientists consider this method unsafe.

In many overseas markets public and private capital expenditure is being cut back.

And where the axe falls on a project such as a highway or an airport, it could easily mean financial hardship for several companies along the line. Including some of our exporters.

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Today, the Export Credits Guarantee Department is paying out more and more on bad debts, not only from politically shaky countries, but from traditionally stable ones as well.

Recently a British engineering firm supplied construction equipment to a customer in the Middle East.

But the customer fell victim to circumstance since the orders for the plant he had received were suddenly cancelled. This meant that he in turn had to let down his own suppliers when payment fell due.

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How good is Benn's case against the Press?

Tony Benn says that the King's Cross drivers and guards were justified in "blackening" the Sun and The Times, that journalists and printers ought to prevent publication of a paper that prints "lies", and that the laws governing distortion in the media ought to be changed. At face value, he is giving his full support to wildcat strikes aimed at press and broadcasting — though he himself says that he is not what he means.

He explains, as he did at the Farringdon NUJ meeting this week, that he simply wishes to defend the moral right of workers not to take part in a process of "lying". He wishes also to find better ways to secure fairness in the British media and to bring about a greater diversity among our newspapers.

With Tony Benn's fervour about fairness — and about the need for diversity among our newspapers — one may have much sympathy. But by implicitly condoning disruption in Fleet Street and in a wider industrial context, he weakens his case. Indeed, both in his diagnosis of the King's Cross "blackening" and in his remedies he appears badly off the rails.

Let us start with the question of "lies". The Sun's sin was to publish last week allegations of "fiddling and cheating" by Aslef drivers (not at King's Cross). The supporting evidence lay in statements by two young drivers, one of whom was awaiting a disciplinary hearing for having falsified his worksheets. It was already known that, at the time of the South London derailment a fortnight ago, an assistant driver was not on the goods train as he should have been.

And within days of The Sun's "dossier" four Southern Region railwaymen — unconnected with the newspaper's informants — were found guilty of fraud. It is perhaps unfortunate for Mr Benn that the Crown Court judge hearing their cases had cause to speak of "systematic malpractice" and of "institutionalized fraud". It is far from clear at present that The Sun's allegations were untruthful.

For hardworking and honest guards and drivers, who are surely the great majority, it is painful when such facts come out. But it is not a reason for "blackening". A more justifiable complaint against The Sun, though still not a cause for disruption, is that its presentation of the Aslef dispute has been one-sided. A rapid scanning of the paper since early January reveals little endeavour to report the drivers' case, at least until after the King's Cross incident. There is a duty on all newspapers to report both sides fairly, especially in sensitive industrial disputes.

No comparable charge can be laid against The Times, which was blacked simply because it, too, belongs to Rupert Murdoch. The Times, like a number of other newspapers, has reported the drivers' side fully and fairly. On January 11, just before the two-day stoppages, it gave Ray Buckton centre-page space for "open letter to commuters." Next day it carried a parallel letter from Clifford Rose, on behalf of the British Rail Board. On January 15 it published a detailed example of a driver's shift patterns to illuminate the core of the dispute, and on January 22 it carried a full restatement of the issues as seen by the two sides. It has also published many letters.

The Guardian and the Financial Times, while not quite so thorough, have given fair coverage to both sides. The Daily Telegraph in early January carried a detailed account of the King's Cross drivers' views on their new

Mr Benn accuses "the press" of unfairness to the railwaymen; he backed the railwaymen who blacked The Times as well as The Sun. The Times invited Alastair Hetherington, former editor of The Guardian, to discuss the evidence and the issues

rosters, but then gave little from their side until January 22, when it published a long, if slightly barbed, account from Blake Baker.

To make a proper analysis of all the papers during January — with due structuralist study of emotive words — is a whole week's work. I have not done it; nor, I am prepared to wager, has Tony Benn. So his sweeping charge of unfairness against almost all the British press is, to say the least, not proven.

Nevertheless he has grounds for debating the diversity of the British press. Although in Britain readers enjoy a wider choice of daily papers than almost anywhere else in the world, there is no substantial paper to the left of the Daily Mirror — which, while lively and well-produced, is generally of orthodox Labour outlook and anti-Benn.

The third Royal Commission on the Press, reporting in 1977, provided statistics to show that at every general election from 1945 to October 1974 the aggregate sales of newspapers supporting the Conservatives were proportionately well above the Conservative vote and that even standard Labour views were, numerically speaking, not well represented. That does not imply unfairness in the treatment of the election by the "heavies", but it does indicate the leaning of Fleet Street towards the right.

That Royal Commission report included a minority addendum written by David Bassett and Geoffrey Goodman — proposing a National Printing Corporation as a subsidiary of the National Enterprise Board. It was a useful proposal, derived partly from an idea of Tony Benn's in an article he wrote for The Guardian some years earlier. Under the Bassett-Goodman formula, the NPC would have power to provide financial aid and expert advice to new publications, the sole test for deciding about aid being potential viability. Tony Benn's idea went further: to public ownership of some — but not all — of the machinery of newspaper publication, so that it could be hired out to those who are willing to risk their own money and effort.

It is true that the 1974 failure of the Scottish Daily News, a

workers' cooperative, has been a bitter disappointment to those involved. But that experience, while a warning of the difficulties, does not invalidate the idea. The Bassett-Goodman version came, of course, too near the end of the last Labour Government's life to have much immediate chance; and it has little or none under the present Government.

Nevertheless it ought not to be forgotten. With the new technology now available — more advanced even than when the McGregor Royal Commission was hearing evidence — the prospects for fresh newspapers are better, always provided that the printing unions will permit economic use of the new machinery.

Another matter on which Tony Benn, in principle, has a good case is the right of reply. But to think of trying to enforce it through the courts is lunacy. The speciality after the experience of clumsy legal intervention in industrial disputes. In these as in other matters, Tony Benn's position would be enormously stronger if he did not appear to condone random disruption of our newspapers and their distribution. Much more effective, if you believe that particular papers are being unfair, is to persuade people to buy another one.

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Burton: this could be the role I've been waiting for

By Elkan Allan

If ever a star needed a critical success, Richard Burton does with the film of the Richard Wagner which he has just started shooting in Vienna. Planned originally as an eight-part television serial, the first three weeks' rushes have convinced the producers that they should screen it first in the cinema as a six-hour epic in two parts, so powerful is his performance and so illustrious the cast.

This week, the noblest trio of the English acting profession — Olivier, Gielgud and Richardson — have been playing together for the first time, as members of the German cabinet that hounded the composer; Vanessa Redgrave plays Wagner's second wife, Gemma Craven his first.

Others in the film, to be made also in Bavaria, Hungary, Switzerland and Venice, include Franco Nero, Ronald Pickup, Richard Pasco, Joan Greenwood, Andrew Cruickshank, Lisa Goddard, Arthur Lowe, Prunella Scales, Joan Plowright, Christopher Gable, Cyril Cusack, Daphne Wagner — a descendant of Richard — and a possible acting debut by Plácido Domingo.

But it is on Richard Burton that the film epic depends. Rarely off the screen, the undeniably great but often self-destructive actor may at last have found a screen part that will harness his prodigious powers instead of the familiar dissipation of empty flamboyant roles in pretentious flops.

Not since *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* in 1966 has he realized his potential power; seven times an Oscar nominee but never a winner, he has dashed expectations so often that even his warmest admirers have despaired. If the fault lies with his directors — and he himself counts only six of the 70-odd he has worked on as sympathetic — it is his daring of him to entrust this most crucial dramatic to a tyro among dramatic directors, Tony Palmer.

Although Palmer has won laurels, including two successive Prix Italia, for his evocative documentaries about composers (Britten, Walton and, coming up, Stravinsky), he has never directed actors except in the briefest sequences. His method of doing so bewildered Burton on the first days of shooting. "He told the cameraman to roam around, holding the camera. Most novel," Burton told me on the set in a Viennese palace. But the highly experienced actor is impressed with the novice director who has been preparing Wagner for six years. "He knows what he wants and is consistently creative about it."

With 42 documentaries and seven shorter films completed in the last eight years, Palmer is used to working fast, and the main problem with the shooting is the paradoxical one that they are so far ahead of schedule that actors and crew are left hanging around waiting for the locations booked well ahead. "I'm not used to being called at seven in the morning and starting a scene at half-past," says Burton. "When I was in *Cleopatra* they called me for September and I got on the set in April."

The director's shrewdest move has been to tempt Bertolucci's own lighting cameraman, Vittorio Storace, who has recently been shooting for Francis Ford Coppola. I saw some of the rushes and can confirm that on this occasion the old boast "every frame a Rembrandt" is not without aptness.

Burton's latest biographer quotes several directors as finding him uninteresting and unapproachable. While claiming to have read neither Paul Ferris's book nor any of the previous studies of him, "There are now about seven books about me. I tried to read one of them once because an in-law of my family was very upset about



Richard Burton (top), as Richard Wagner, enjoys a musical evening with soprano Adele Leigh. Above, Burton and the composer in his late fifties

something. I fell asleep with boredom", he admits that he does tend to walk through a part once he has discovered he has made a mistake in choosing the role.

That is far from the case in this marathon role. Palmer finds him anxious to be involved, first on the set, word-perfect and respectful of Charles Wood's script to a greater degree than any of the other players. "They all ad lib a bit, but Richard gets every word right," says Palmer.

One reason, Palmer thinks, is the degree of involvement Burton feels with Wagner. "He did an immense amount of preparation. As soon as he agreed to do the part, he called for as many of the 22,000 books on Wagner as I could supply; all his music on records, drawings of the composer; anything I could find. Burton undergoes a physical transformation on the set and ends up looking uncannily like him."

"There is a strong parallel between the two men. Just as

Burton's escapades with Elizabeth Taylor have obscured his immense talent, so Wagner was more famous in his lifetime for his liaisons with women than for his music.

"Both are Celtic: Wagner was Saxonian and spoke with a broad German accent. For a time we toyed with giving him a Welsh accent in the film, but Burton says he has forgotten his — and, anyway, it would have confused the audience. But it's certainly true that publicity obscured

both their talents, that money and the main chance sucked them in from time to time, but that both retained immense strength."

Burton denies any identification. "He must have had something extraordinary about him to persuade all those people to give him money and seduce all those ladies. But he was little, he was poorly, not a very good-looking man. The essential difference is that he was a genius and I'm not."

Whatever genius is, Burton

has the power to move an audience. Several of the technicians told me of the tears in their eyes when he played a scene with Gemma Craven in which Wagner kneels and begs her forgiveness.

Expansive at a five-hour lunch the next day, he speculated on the reasons for having chosen so many poor films in the past. "I'm an easy touch. Producers come to me with tears in their eyes and say 'If only you make this one, it will save me from bankruptcy' or some other hard luck yarn, so I agree and then I'm stuck with it."

His 14 years in Hollywood and a contract with 20th Century Fox were the worst, he insisted. "I had no choice of films except the choices of refusing. There were two real stinkers in a row that I remember particularly, *The Bramble Bush* and *Ice Palace*. Larry Olivier was doing *Spartacus* in much the same spirit at the same time and we sat there wondering what on earth we were doing."

"One night he said there was only one thing that could save us, we had to go and find some babies that were reassured that there was some kind of future, I suppose. So there we were, in the middle of the night, driving round Beverly Hills looking for a baby. Completely drunk, of course. We knocked at doors of houses where we saw a light and in one of them a complete stranger — they produced a baby for us."

"To this day, I don't know who it was. I think we both kept a little. Our fans of the future, we must have said. And then we went back home."

It may be that, at 57, Richard Burton is at last coming into his own. Next year he is determined to fulfil his 20-year dream of playing Lear on the stage, and has a production set up; his great regret is that he is too old for Richard II. But age is bringing compensations and new dreams.

"A lot of my friends and some of my children and fellow actors say to me that I have squandered what talent I may have. But maybe I'm a late-comer, maybe I'll come into my own when I'm about 60. In almost every artistic career there's an enormous burst of late energy."

"Even in Shakespeare the early plays are relatively indifferent, the middle comedies begin to show his genius and then there's that tremendous burst of energy that produced the five great tragedies. It's never too late, it seems to me."

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Why Mrs Thatcher let the Cabinet have its Budget say

Geoffrey Smith

The most curious feature of this week's Cabinet meeting on the broad strategy of the Budget is that it was not unique: the Callaghan Cabinet had a day's session at Chequers before the preparation of Mr Healey's last Budget. But such discussions are most unusual. The custom has been, whatever the party complexion of the government, to allow the Chancellor to get on with the job and present his secrets to the Cabinet only a matter of hours before he introduces his Budget in the Commons.

Indeed, Professor David Marquand records in his biography of Ramsay MacDonald that when MacDonald asked his Chancellor, Philip Snowden, in 1930 to give the Cabinet a little more notice than usual of his proposals, Snowden replied indignantly: "Past experience has shown that a premature Cabinet disclosure is as good as a full page advertisement in the *Daily Mail*."

The article on this page yesterday about Italian terrorism was written by The Times Rome Correspondent, Peter Horns.

That probably expresses Mrs Thatcher's sentiments very well today. In 1930 MacDonald was acting on behalf of his Cabinet colleagues in trying to smoke out the Chancellor. But as a general rule prime ministers find it to their own advantage to preserve the Chancellor's prerogative of secrecy. Certainly Mrs Thatcher would never have held Thursday's discussion if it had not been necessary to satisfy her colleagues: last year she rejected a request from Mr Prior for a similar meeting.

Mr Callaghan too was acting in response to feeling in his Cabinet; and both then and this week the occasion simply provided an opportunity for other ministers to tell the Chancellor what they thought should be in his Budget. There was no question of taking collective decisions on the strategy.

Even so, such a discussion gives the rest of the Cabinet a chance to bring pressure to bear upon the Chancellor. It cannot suit a Prime Minister so well as the traditional practice whereby the Chancellor prepares the Budget on the basis of a dialogue with the Prime Minister, as well as with his senior civil servants and a few ministerial colleagues in economic posts.

The more decisions are taken by the full Cabinet but by small groups of ministers in discussion with the Prime Minister, the more is the Prime Minister's power enhanced.

The extension of an elaborate system of Cabinet committees, under the chairmanship of ministers who had become the Prime Minister's agents, was one of the principal reasons why Richard Crossman declared in his celebrated introduction to the Fontana edition of *The English Constitution*: "The postwar epoch has seen the final transformation of Cabinet Government into Prime Ministerial Government."

Why then have two such very different Prime Ministers found it advisable to make the same concession to Cabinet government within the space of a few years? The answer is that this is one among a number of pieces of evidence to suggest that the time has come to reassess the Crossman doctrine. "In so far as ministers feel themselves to be agents of the

Premier," Crossman wrote, "the British Cabinet has come to resemble the American Cabinet." One sees how misleading that comparison has become if one examines what has been happening in three areas: elections, the choice of ministers and the conduct of government business.

General elections are not won and lost in Britain on the comparative popularity of the rival party leaders. Their popularity is a factor, but it was the only factor Mr Thatcher would not be Prime Minister today: she ran consistently behind Mr Callaghan in the opinion polls in 1979. Back in 1970 the Conservatives managed to win, even though Mr Heath was less popular than Mr Wilson; and they lost in 1945 despite being led by Churchill, who began the election campaign at the height of his fame.

It is different in the United States. Even though the Republicans are the minority party, a Republican has been in the White House for 17 of the past 29 years. Everyone who serves in Mr Reagan's

Cabinet or in a position of power and influence in the White House knows that he would not be there but for Mr Reagan's electoral popularity. They are all agents of the President in Crossman's sense. But ministers in Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet may well believe that the Conservatives would have won better in 1979 without her.

This affects both the freedom of the Prime Minister to choose the Cabinet she wants and the relationship of ministers to her. No member of Mr Reagan's Cabinet has an independent political standing. Mr Haig may dream of becoming President, but that is not a vision widely shared in the United States. Mr David Stockman was a congressman before Mr Reagan picked him to be his Budget Director, but in the House of Representatives he had been unable to get on the Budget Committee. What counts in the United States is compatibility with the President, politically and personally.

By contrast, Mrs Thatcher has surrounded herself with a Cabinet most of whose

members do not share her political philosophy, or who at least fail to share her original intentions have not been implemented.

Sometimes this has been because she has been persuaded to change her mind, as over Rhodesia-Zimbabwe. Sometimes it has been because she has been successfully resisted by a departmental minister, as with Mr Prior's objections to more radical changes in trade union legislation — though even now that she has Mr Tebbit the reforms will be less than drastic. Sometimes, as in the protracted debates over public expenditure which have been such a feature of this administration, the collective will of the Cabinet has been asserted.

A modern Prime Minister has a more secure hold upon office between elections than in the past. A popular discussion implies that duties have passed when a quiet word from a few senior colleagues could be enough to topple an incumbent. But a Prime Minister's capacity to secure the action that she (or he) wants depends more upon personal authority and less upon the weight of the office than Crossman allowed.

year's Budget being a conspicuous example. But in a number of other areas her original intentions have not been implemented.

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Marriage is a union, Nalga, to be precise. I discovered that the day I telephoned Finbury Town Hall and uttered the fateful words "I'd like to know about getting married on a Saturday."

There was a familiar sound on the other end of the line, a sucking-in of air through clenched teeth which usually belongs to the garage mechanic looking at a spluttering engine. Finally a female voice spoke: "Sorry, the office is not answering the phone."

"But you have answered the phone," I protested. "Well I would. I'm the telephonist, aren't I? It's the registrars, they're not answering their phones."

"Not even as far as I can see, dear. You'd better ring Mr Brown."

Mr Brown was not there, but his assistant was. "I have to tell you that we are in official dispute with Islington Council vis à vis the inaugurations of our members. They're insisting on a Saturday marriage."

"All I want to do is get married," I said in a plaintive voice. "On a Saturday."

"Oh, then I can be specific. Impossible. We've banned Saturday marriages."

"Everywhere?"

Well, not quite everywhere. There is probably a vicious-enemy-of-the-working-class registrar somewhere furtively sneaking in the odd couple before *World of Sport*, and good luck to him. Perhaps he has never seen a flying picket. I have and I do not think it would get along with the relatives."

No, the conscientious agnostic has to face the fact that Saturday weddings outside of a church are a thing of the past, and have been since Nalga started his ban last May.

Of course, there are great inconveniences facing us through industrial disputes this winter, as anyone who has tried to catch a train will know. But that should not lessen our attention to the core of the registrars' dispute.

The Nalga case is plain. Since 1975 the union has been trying to renegotiate the grades of its registrar members. The people concerned do not seem to care for the registrar's rate for a ceremony is £5,084, a registrar £6,502, and a superintendent £5,561. Few actually receive these amounts, of course, what with service increments and other deductions, but no-one would regard the profession as highly paid.

When Nalga failed to receive what it considered a reasonable pay increase, it started an overtime ban and stopped working on Saturdays. Last September, it stepped up this action to refusing to answer the telephone, insisting on using the full rules for every action of refusing to help members of the public who were searching for information, and banning most statistics sent to central Government.

That is the state of play today, coupled with a local variations ban as registrars who turn up for weddings in jeans.

For many of the registrar office staff, Saturday work is a part of their contract, not a matter for overtime, while the other duties were previously accepted as normal daily routine. What, in effect, they have managed to do is to work less for the same money.

It all sounds a familiar public sector story. The one light on the horizon came from Cambridgeshire County Council this week when it decided to cut by 5 per cent the pay of registrar-office workers who have banned Saturday weddings.

The Council said: "It is intended to be a reflection of the loss of service to the public rather than a punitive measure."

The key phrase in all this is "service to the public". It is "service to the public" that the registrar-office workers feel they are underpaid for. They can accept what they have, or they can go on strike to force a settlement.

David Hewson

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The sexual

From Mrs Helga

Sir, While I take

point ("Are you

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7) that the "p"

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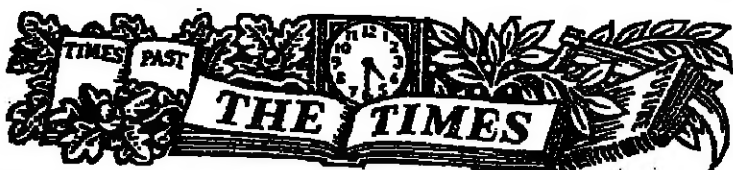
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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

PAWNS OR PIECES?

The harshness of *Pravda's* recent attack on the Italian Communist Party shows how the Russians were touched on the raw by the strictures they have received from Italy. Relations between the Soviet and Italian parties have been strained for many years, with the Italians insisting that each party should be free to follow its own course, without necessarily taking the Soviet Union as a model. But this line of thinking was taken a significant stage further in the recent statements on Poland, adopted on the recommendation of Signor Berlinguer, the party leader. The Italians not only condemned the Russians for their part in the military clamp-down, but went on to reject the Soviet model altogether, saying that it was mistaken and that democracy was necessary for socialism.

In reply, *Pravda* pulled out all the stops, drawing on the sort of language it used in the past against such heresies as Titoism and Maoism. The Italian party, it said, had adopted positions which helped the cause of anti-communism; and it was "sacrilegious" to suggest that there was no difference between the foreign policy of the Soviet Union and that of the United States.

Much of the violence of this attack must derive from the embarrassment the Russians feel over events in Poland. The Italian communists were strong supporters of the trend towards pluralism there. They felt a particular affinity for Solidarity, which they saw as a mass movement acting in

alliance with the institutions of Catholicism — something that they themselves would like to be — and they had given frequent warnings to Moscow not to interfere. The main significance for the West, however, is that the exchanges between the Russians and the Italians mark a further weakening — if not quite a rupture — of the ties linking Moscow to one of the principal communist parties in western Europe. Until now, the existence of large communist parties, mainly in the southern countries, has often stood in the way of political change, because there was a natural fear of giving any share of power to parties which were totalitarian in nature and tied to Moscow. This has been true in Italy since the Second World War, where it has enabled the Christian Democrats to stay in power.

The aim of Signor Berlinguer, and of other leaders of the Eurocommunist movement, has been to persuade public opinion that their parties accepted western democratic values and was no longer tied to Moscow. That has also been the line taken by Señor Carrillo, the leader of the Spanish Communist Party. The Spanish communists have been equally critical of Soviet behaviour in Poland, and of the failure which it revealed of the Soviet model, but have not been attacked in the same terms as the Italians. By contrast the French communists, who had a brief flirtation with Eurocommunism, have now returned to the Moscow fold and have backed the

clampdown in Poland. But they are weaker now than they have been for many years and, though they are in the government, have little influence on policy.

The attacks from Moscow, therefore, can do Signor Berlinguer nothing but good. And they have come at the right time. The Christian Democrats are visibly faltering after their long years of power, and Signor Craxi, the energetic leader of the Socialist Party, is anxious to present himself as an alternative. By proposing a "third way", somewhere between Soviet-style communism and social democracy, Signor Berlinguer is serving notice that he, too, claims to be an acceptable alternative to the left.

In recent years the Italian party has in fact seemed more anxious to be part of the establishment than to carry out any very revolutionary aims. It denounces the Red Brigades, most recently for kidnapping General Dozier, it supports Italian membership of Nato and the European Community. Its domestic policies have become more moderate. All the same, it opposes the stationing of new Nato missiles in Europe. It has still not broken completely with Moscow, and many of its members would not want it to do so. There are bound to remain misgivings about any communists who come to power in Europe, even a reformist one, until there can be assurance that elements within it sympathetic to Moscow will not resume control.

ALL CLEAR FOR PATRIATION

A great deal has happened since Mr Trudeau first sought patriation of the Canadian constitution more than a year ago. The peremptory and somewhat offensive tone of his initial demand, in which he made clear his belief that Westminster had no option but to hold its nose and rubber-stamp Ottawa's request, was succeeded by a more conciliatory, and more realistic, approach. That was primarily because of internal political pressures, but he came to realize too that the British Parliament's approval was by no means the foregone conclusion he believed constitutionally it should be.

Mr Trudeau had, at first, only two of the ten provinces supporting the federal government's request. The Canadian Supreme Court decided that Ottawa was legally entitled to come to Westminster without the consent of the provinces, but that their agreement should be obtained as a requirement of constitutional convention. The Court did not say how many provinces would need to consent, but the judgments did not suggest that there had to be unanimity. After further negotiations, Mr Trudeau has now made his formal request to Parliament, by way of the Canada Bill, and he has come with the backing of nine of the ten provinces. The tenth, Quebec, is suggesting that its

lone opposition should nevertheless be sufficient cause for Westminster to refuse to pass the Bill.

It is regrettable that the unreconciled province should be such a significant one, a founding nation, encompassing a quarter of Canada's population. It would be greatly beneficial to Canada as a whole if the differences between Quebec and the Federal government could be composed. But that is a Canadian problem, not Westminster's. So far as Parliament is concerned, the Supreme Court's criteria have been met. Ottawa comes to London with the consent of the provinces, if not their unanimous consent. Quebec's isolation should be no obstacle to the passing of the Canada Bill.

Nor should the plight of the Indian peoples of Canada affect Parliament's constitutional duty to pass the Bill. The Indians, as well as the Métis (half-breeds) and the Inuits (Eskimos) are in many ways Canada's second class citizens. The federal government, not least in the person of Mr Trudeau himself, is aware of its failure towards the native peoples. Some of the provincial governments, in contrast, see Indian rights as an obstacle to the full exercise of provincial autonomy.

The Canadian Charter of

Rights and Freedoms, which is part of the constitutional package which the Canadian government has asked Westminster to pass, provides by Article 35 that "the existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are hereby recognized and affirmed". What those rights are have not been defined. They will be the subject of talks between the Indians and the government. Ultimately, any dispute would be for the Canadian courts to sort out. This arrangement is being treated with suspicion by some of the Indian groups, one of which has gone as far as asking the English courts to declare that "constitutional responsibility for them continued to lie with the Crown in the United Kingdom, and had not been transferred to the Canadian government when that country became, for all practical purposes, independent. The Court of Appeal has now rejected that claim. The sympathy that can justifiably be felt for the Indian peoples should not be allowed to obscure the legal effect of that judgment, which is (subject to further appeal) that the Indians, like Quebec, are Canada's responsibility. The United Kingdom Parliament has now no legal or constitutional or political option but to pass the Canada Bill and send the constitution where it belongs.

HONOURABLE AND REVEREND MEMBERS

When the parliamentary institutions of England were being formed, the clergy were regarded as a separate estate of the realm. They met in the Convocations of Canterbury and York where they legislated for the church and granted taxes to the Crown at rates they determined for themselves. That is the reason clergymen of the Church of England may not sit in the House of Commons. Since the Convocations ceased to vote their own subsidies to the king and came under the general taxing power of parliament about the middle of the seventeenth century, that is not a very cogent reason for continuing the exclusion. But it is about as good as any of the subsequent reasons that have been invented.

The first to be invented was that the House of Commons needed protection against the radical clergyman Horne Tooke. Having failed to be elected a couple of times for other constituencies he was returned by the three electors of the notorious borough of Old Sarum. There followed the House of Commons (Clergy Disqualification) Act, 1801, which dealt with the problem in the broadest way and is still in force. The

exclusion of radical agitators from the House of Commons is an object at all time deserving of respect. But the pass was sold long ago in all respects except the clerical. Indeed with the passage of the 1963 Peerages Act, under which the member for Bristol South-East disclaimed his peerage, the House may be said to have rushed to embrace its fate.

Parliament also had a wider purpose in 1801, which was to put some restriction on the numbers of placemen who were the plague of politics at that time; since the church, over which the Crown exercised extensive patronage, possessed a fund of ready-made placemen. Those days have gone almost as completely as the days when the clergy arranged their own taxes.

The assertion that a political role is unbefitting to the cloth never cut much ice as a reason for exclusion when it has all along been open to a clergyman to take his seat in the House of Lords provided only that he had succeeded to a peerage or had a life peerage thrust upon him. And then there are the Lords spiritual. Their presence in the House of Lords is the

only contemporary reason offered for excluding the lower clergy from the Commons. It too is a bad reason. Members of Parliament are elected to represent their constituents first and foremost: their vocation, trade union or interest only incidentally — that is the theory anyway. If the electors of a constituency wish to be represented in the Commons by a clerk in holy orders, a bench of bishops in the Lords does not make a reason for telling them they may not be.

Clergy of the Church of Scotland, which is the established church of that part of the realm, and clergy of the church of Rome, for historical reasons of a different kind, also fall under the disability. What used to be called non-conformists escape, though if the churches' covenanting scheme goes through it is thought that the ministers of all the subscribing churches will be in holy orders for the purposes of the 1801 Act. A motion before next month's General Synod of the Church of England invites the Government to introduce legislation to sweep away the whole obsolete tangle of principles and prejudices. Good luck to it.

From Mr D. Holbrook, Sir, I was as startled as no doubt some of your readers were to learn of an article by Miss Caroline Moorehead (January 26) on the anniversary of a radio programme, that another individual — and David Holbrook both chose pornography for their books — to be abandoned with, on Mr Roy Plomley's imaginary desert island.

I never appeared on *Desert Island Discs*. No doubt the false attribution resulted from carelessness, but I should like to protest as pornography is to me as distasteful as anti-semitism, and the reference could give the impression that I would be prepared to enjoy in private an activity against which I have discriminated against in public; and that, although I am a lover of literature, I should be prepared to prefer contemplating images of the unconscious hatred of women, sexual rape, in an enforced exile.

This, I am sure you will agree, is all most unfortunate when offered with all the authority of *The Times*, about someone in education.

Yours &c,
DAVID HOLBROOK,
Denmore Lodge,
Brunswick Gardens,
Cambridge.

Trawler fleet's role in British defence

From Captain S. W. Roskill, FBA, RN

Sir, The shocking figures recording the decline of our once flourishing fishing fleet, recently publicized in your columns, leave unanswered one important, even vital aspect of this state of affairs: namely the effect on the maritime defence of these islands.

In both world wars of this century all the best British trawlers and drifters were requisitioned by the Admiralty shortly before the outbreak of hostilities. The trawlers were mostly fitted with Asdic for anti-submarine work and the drifters with mine-sweeping gear; both types were given rudimentary anti-aircraft armaments.

Their splendid crews (helped by an infiltration of naval reservists) continued to man their vessels and carried out considerable work as convoy escorts and in keeping our coastal waters clear of mines. Their tasks were always hazardous in the extreme, as the loss of 250 trawlers and 107 drifters between 1939 and 1945 clearly demonstrated. In truth, the people of this country benefited enormously from the availability of these privately owned ships, a fact which appears today to be totally ignored.

I am well aware that Mr Nott has been arguing the acceptance of the age-old fallacy that the strategy of ocean convoy is no longer applicable; but have he or his advisers found any method of protecting shipping in coastal waters except by conveying it from port to port? And how can the waters be kept clear of mines when only a paltry number of naval vessels and few if any auxiliaries will be available?

The other aspect of maritime defence inherent in the decline of the fishing fleet is the loss to the nation of the hardy breed of fishermen. Again, and again in our history have warnings been given in Parliament and elsewhere of the consequences. In 1774 Sir Charles Saunders told the House of Commons: "Give up the fishery and you lose your breed of seamen"; Kipling paid his tribute to such men in his well-known poem, "The Fishermen", 1914-1918; and R. H. Thornton, in his book *British Shipping* (1959), states that "It is in the trawlers and drifters and the family-owned fishing craft... that one must look for the men with the sea in their blood". Surely it is time that this problem was faced squarely?

A distinguished Euro MP recently told me that the decline of the fishing fleet and the large imports of fish from other EEC countries were principally due to the strength of the pound sterling. Doubtless that is one factor, but I find it hard to believe that the causes are not more complex.

Yours faithfully,
S. W. ROSKILL,
Churchill College,
Cambridge.

Punishing teachers

From Captain D. C. R. Walters RN (ret'd)

Sir, I much enjoyed your second leader on Saturday, January 23, re assaults on teachers, which reminded me of a forebear.

Statistics may be relieved that the occasion of assaults on teachers has decreased since early in the last century. Augustus Short, later first Bishop of Adelaide, was sent to Westminster School in 1809 at the age of 6½ (the only part he enjoyed there was being breakfasted by (the future) Archbishop Longley).

He was encouraged to fight from the beginning, a habit he put to use later as a bishop in the Outback. In his biography it is recorded that when asked about his combative spirit he replied: "Fighting was in my blood. I was a boy at Westminster, the boys fought one another, they fought the masters, the masters fought them, they fought outsiders, in fact we were ready to fight everybody in those days for the whole nation spoke of nothing but fighting."

Yours faithfully,
D. C. R. WALTERS,
The Old Primary,
Sutton,
Woodbridge,
Suffolk.

Unjust desert

From Mr D. Holbrook, Sir, I was as startled as no doubt some of your readers were to learn of an article by Miss Caroline Moorehead (January 26) on the anniversary of a radio programme, that another individual — and David Holbrook both chose pornography for their books — to be abandoned with, on Mr Roy Plomley's imaginary desert island.

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Yours &c,
DAVID HOLBROOK,
Denmore Lodge,
Brunswick Gardens,
Cambridge.

Proposed curbs on union powers

From Mr Giles Radice, MP for Chester-le-Street (Labour)

Sir, When last November, Norrie Tibbitt announced the Government's plans for further industrial relations legislation he argued that the time was right and the need clear. But there is no obvious industrial reason why there should be a second round of legislation.

The *Prior Employment Act*, which curbed closed shops and restricted picketing and secondary action, has only been in operation for 18 months, so the Tories can scarcely claim that there has been sufficient time to prove the necessity for even harsher measures. Indeed the substantial drop in the number of working days lost in disputes, for which Mr Tibbitt is quick to claim the credit, undermines his own case. Many of us suspect that the Government is motivated more by prejudice and political opportunism than by a genuine desire to improve industrial relations, a suspicion which is only strengthened by an examination of the *Tobacco Bill*.

Despite the reservations expressed in the Government's own Green Paper, the *Bill* withdraws from actions in tort which was introduced in 1906 to enable trade unions to carry out their legitimate functions. The danger is that the withdrawal of trade union immunity, the attempt to make trade unions vicariously liable for actions carried out by officials, and the high level of damages could not only lead, as the Green Paper warned, to the further weakening of the authority of trade union leaders but, even more serious, to a deterioration in the overall climate of industrial relations and respect for the law.

The various restrictions of the definition of a trade dispute contained in the *Bill* will both unacceptably restrict the right to

strike and tempt managers to resort to injunctions instead of sorting out their industrial relations problems directly. I am also concerned that the Government's intention to outlaw strikes of a political nature will put judges in the invidious position of deciding what is and is not a political strike. Unlike in France and Italy, there have been very few such strikes in this country; the involvement of the judiciary could lead to the very result the legislation seeks to avoid.

In spite of the warnings of the Engineering Employers' Federation and the Employment Select Committee, the Government seeks to impose balloting on existing closed shops, a move which could undermine industrial relations and stimulate inter-union strife. And because the legal remedies are so much more beneficial for those who are dismissed in closed shops, the law is now biased against helping the vast majority of unfairly dismissed employees who are the victims of employer power.

One of the most extraordinary proposals of the *Bill* (about which there has been no consultation) is to give the Secretary of State new discretionary powers to compensate retrospectively out of public funds certain categories of persons dismissed between 1974 and 1980 as a result of a closed shop agreement.

Nobody can be certain that, if they get the chance, the Tories will not take a third "bite of the cherry" and introduce yet another *Bill*. The tragedy is that the Government is wasting the nation's time in irrelevant divisive anti-union legislation when we ought instead to be improving industrial relations by introducing a significant degree of industrial democracy.

Yours sincerely,
GILES RADICE,
House of Commons,
January 28.

A train driver's skills

From Mr R. D. Kimberley

Sir, At a time when Aslef train drivers are flexing their muscles, it is apt to consider their rewards in relation to their skills and responsibilities, compared with those demanded of other public and private transport drivers.

That a train driver must be skilled in the handling of his train, be very conversant with procedures and his road, is not to be denied, but he does not carry the same degree of physical and mental effort and responsibility as does the bus or lorry driver or even those of the private road user. He is trained to drive on specific routes.

His physical and mental exercise required of a skilled train driver is today restricted to the judicious use of his speed controller and brakes and the observance of signals and instruments. Compare these efforts and responsibilities with those of the road vehicle driver who has to control steering, gear changes, braking, observation of signals and instruments, judgment of widths, heights and road surface conditions, evasion of erratic pedestrians and other road users' behaviour. In addition, he

may be called upon to conduct his vehicle on roads which he has never before travelled, selecting strange routes through unknown conditions. All of these in every type of weather and conditions which tax his physical and mental skill in handling his vehicle.

Nobody will deny that a train driver should enjoy an income and working conditions commensurate with the efforts and skill required, but one must wonder if he is so privileged as to cause national chaos and satisfy his aspirations for recognition of skills which are not nearly as arduous as those required of the millions of other drivers of public and private transport, simply because he is a specialist in an occupation of his choosing, for which he spent years being trained and wherein his abilities are restricted.

Given these conditions, is it not proper that his income in these hard times be linked to productivity and comparable to that of others similarly placed? May I add simply that I am a private road user and that I was for seven years the general manager of a public railway system abroad?

Yours faithfully,
R. DOUGLAS KIMBERLEY,
26 Binney Street, W1.

Slump strategies

From Mr C. N. Beattie

Sir, I find it regrettable depressing to compare the attitude of today's Conservative Government to the economic and financial difficulties which that of the leaders of the party in the remarkably similar situation which existed in 1931.

Then the Conservative Party went to the electorate on a programme of pay cuts, particularly for Government employees, including sailors (not aluminium workers) at Invergordon, to be imposed on a population already suffering privation.

A National Government made up largely of Conservatives was elected on that programme by an overwhelming majority of the British people, who responded as always to a situation where the nation was up against it.

Today's Conservative Government tells us that things are not so bad really, with social security cushioning everybody including strikers, that the best remedy is to work a bit less through early retirement and shorter hours, that we can go on having our pay rises but not by too much except for those who have industrial muscle and greed, and that then things will gradually come right.

Will they? And will such a timid Government be re-elected by an overwhelming majority?

Yours faithfully,
C. N. BEATTIE,
24 Old Buildings,
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

Proper names

From Dr A. I. Spriggs

Sir, A certain Dr Cantab, probably a relation of the Mr MacCantab referred to in Mr Oliver's letter (January 25), was given credit in a recent medical article for a discovery made in 1922 in connection with the cerebrospinal fluid. This caused me to look into the activities of this strange scientific fraternity who have been prominent in the medical sphere.

One of this fraternity is Dr M. R. C. P. Edin, who collaborated with six colleagues in a study of splenic erythropoiesis, and published in the *Acta Medica Scandinavica* in 1978. Dr Edin publishes very rarely, but this cannot be said of the polymath Dr D. Phil, who was responsible for eight entries in the *Index Medicus* in 1977 and 13 in 1978 (though none at all in the following year).

Dr D. Phil has two brothers, and they all modestly refrain

from getting their names into first place; and this modesty is shared by the prolific Path brothers, and by that mysterious Slav gynaecologist, Dr B. S. Mrcog, whose single contribution, with Dr M. R. Path and others, is listed in the *Index Medicus* for 1978.

M. A. and B. A. Cantab, brothers of the first mentioned gentlemen, have departed from the usual self-effacement and appeared (according to *Index Medicus*) as sole authors of obituaries in the *Lancet* in 1977 and 1980 respectively, following the lead of Dr D. M. Oxon, who is listed as having written two in 1975.

readers who intend to consult a doctor should be warned about the infiltrations of this medical Mafia.

Yours faithfully,
A. I. SPRIGGS,
Churchill Hospital,
Oxford,
January 27.

'Sun' report on rail practices

From the Editorial Director of News Group Newspapers Ltd.

Sir, I was disturbed by Lord Hunt's letter (January 29) about the *Sun's* decision to publish allegations of malpractices by certain train drivers. Lord Hunt accepts that the report merited publication but feels that its presentation amounted to "a blatant example of editorial indiscretion".

Apparently the story would have been acceptable to Lord Hunt had the Editor placed it on an obscure inside page under a subdued headline printed in the smallest type the printer could lay his hands on. This would have ensured that no many people read it, and that a minimum of embarrassment would have been caused to those working in the railway industry.

The *Sun* does not apologise for using banner headlines and bold presentation to ensure that an issue of urgent public interest is thoroughly ventilated.

All of us at *The Sun* could have had an easier life and a lot more sleep by miniaturising the story to appease union militants. Lord Hunt, who makes a distinguished contribution as a member of the last Royal Commission on the Press, should be the last man to ascribe purely commercial motives to an outstanding example of journalistic enterprise and courage.

Yours faithfully,
PETER STEPHENS, Editorial Director,
News Group Newspapers Ltd.,
30 Boulevard Street, EC4,
January 29.

Tax on home-buying

From Mr Mark Boleat

Sir, The Director of the Low Pay Unit (January 23) has strange ideas about the nature of taxation. The objection to stamp duty, as set out in your leader of January 19 and this association's representations to the Chancellor, is that it is a tax imposed on home-buyers. Indeed the only time that the vast majority of individuals will ever pay stamp duty is when they buy a home. For Mr Pond to refer to the reduction of stamp duty as a "concession" or a "relief" is to add insult to injury.

Mr Pond points out, correctly, that mortgage interest relief cost nearly £2,000m in 1980-81 — "a doubling of the revenue forgone in one year alone". In fact the increase was 35 per cent and the latest estimate is that tax relief in 1981-82 will be marginally less than 1980-81.

Mr Pond suggests that the exemption of owner-occupied housing from the old schedule A tax is even more expensive. One accepts that either tax relief or the exemption from a tax on imputed rental incomes are a subsidy but both cannot be a point really. The Labour Government's housing policy review, similarly with the so-called capital gains tax exemption. If CGT was levied on owner-occupied housing and if rollover relief was applied in the normal way and even if house prices and the behaviour of house-buyers was unchanged the relief would be very much less than the £2,400m quoted.

The taxation of owner-occupied housing is a legitimate subject for debate but should not start from the premise that it should be more severe than for any other goods or service and that lack of any form of taxation represents a concession.

Yours faithfully,
MARK BOLEAT,
Deputy Secretary-General,
The Building Societies Association,
34 Park Street, W1.

Sexual violence

From Mr A. E. G. Wright

Sir, I sometimes think that Ronald Butt (February 28) too facilely rebuffs superficial symptoms, such as pornography, instead of identifying the roots of our deep-seated social malaise (might not a widespread lack of self-respect be one?). But I strongly agree with him that a properly researched and investigated background of rapists and those of the perpetrators of non-sexual violence also, is now an urgent priority.

If Mr Butt were to visit my local underground station (Finsbury Park) he would observe the following slogans in foot-high letters: "Stop rape — kill men", "Castration on demand" and "Women only transport".

hope he will agree that escalating the sex war in this barmy way isn't the right answer, either.

Yours faithfully,
A. E. G. WRIGHT,
90 Uplands Road, N8,
January 28.

Gravy training

From Mr H. F. Heinemann

Sir, On your front page (January 21) you enthused over Michelin's award of three stars to Le Gavroche. You quoted Michelin's chief inspector as saying the award gives the lie to the national sport of denigrating British cooking. I thought this a bit strong, seeing Le Gavroche is French-owned and its diners statistically a negligible sample.

But trust *The Times*. On page 21 of the same issue you redressed the balance with a Law Report of an action alleging passing off of Gravatmate as Bisto. Now that does go to the heart of British cooking.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY HEINEMANN,
8 Old Kennels Close,
Oliver's Battery,
Winchester,
Hampshire.

The sexual revolution

From Mrs Helge Rubinstein

Sir, While I take Celia Haddon's point ("Are we victims of the new sexual orthodoxy?", January 27) that the "permissive society" has produced a new kind of sexual tyranny, I also know from my work as a marriage counsellor and sex therapist that innumerable individuals and couples have been released from much personal misery.

Sexual ignorance is still amazingly rife among all age groups and the new freedom to talk about sex is only just beginning to change this, while the research done by Masters and Johnson and those who followed them (notably Helen Singer Kaplan who, incidentally, surely deserves a place in your sex researchers' gallery) has enabled us to help sufferers from many common sexual difficulties and so often helped couples whose marriage was

threatened by sexual problems to stay together.

It may well be that the pendulum has swung a little too far, but we should all be a great deal worse off if it had not swung at all.

Yours faithfully,
HELGE RUBINSTEIN,
Chairman, London Marriage Guidance Council,
61 Clarendon Road, W11,
January 26.

to armour

Front Line,

Saturday Review

Breaking free

The story of Qiu Jin, poet, feminist and revolutionary, by Jonathan D. Spence

From the Opium War (1840-42) onwards blows fell on China: national dignity was affronted, confidence was undermined, the complacency of the mandarins was cruelly exposed. Yet a new-found nationalism only finally exploded following China's defeat by Japan in 1895. The last days of the Qing, or Manchu dynasty were signalled thus by the Boxer catastrophe of 1900.

Revolution was thus in the air in China; in shame at national backwardness, in anxiety at facing western power. In an age of liberation women, too, joined the forces seeking change. This is the brief story of one such woman, born just over a hundred years ago.

In 1904 a young woman, Qiu Jin, took the logical step of combining nationalism and feminism by concentrating on the plight of the two hundred million women in China. She described this plight in an essay published in the autumn of 1904 in one of the new radical Chinese journals appearing in Japan, in terms of her own personal experience of what such subjugation could mean.

"We, the two hundred million women of China, are the most unfairly treated objects on this earth. If we have a decent father, then we will be all right at the time of our birth; but if he is crude by nature, or an unreasonable man, he will immediately start speaking out phrases like 'Oh what an ill-omened day here's another useless one'. If only he could, he would dash us to the ground. He keeps repeating, 'She will be in someone else's family later on', and looks at us with cold or disdainful eyes.

"Before many years have passed, without anyone's bothering to ask if it's right or wrong, they take out a pair of snow-white bands and bind them around our feet, tightening them with strips of white cotton; even when we go to bed at night we are not allowed to loosen them the least bit; with the result that the flesh peels away and the bones buckle under. The sole purpose of all this is just to ensure that our relatives, friends, and neighbours will all say, 'At the so-and-so's the girls have small feet'.

"Not only that, when it comes time to pick a son-in-law, they rely on the advice of a couple of shameless matchmakers, caring only that the man's family have some money or influence; they don't bother to find out if his family background is murky or good, or what his character is like, or whether he's bright or stupid — they just go along with the arrangement. When it's time to get married and move to the new house, they hire the bride a sedan chair all decked out with multicoloured embroidery, but sitting shut up inside it one can barely breathe. And once you get there, whatever your husband is like, as long as he's a family man they will tell you that you were blessed in a previous existence and are being rewarded in this one. If he turns out no good, they will tell you it's 'retribution for that earlier existence' or 'the aura was all wrong'."

Qiu Jin was protesting against injustices that had existed for centuries, and the nature and vigour of her protest indicates one of the many crosscurrents in the spreading flood of the Chinese revolution. The growing number of girls' schools in China, the influence of Western missionary teachers and of Chinese reformers, the founding of hostels for women and of clubs to promote the marriage of those with unbound feet, the return of the first Chinese women graduates from overseas, the publication of magazines and newspapers focusing on women's issues, the translation of books and pamphlets about Western feminist leaders — all contributed to the radical nationalism of the day. In dozens of Qiu Jin's poems we find her emphasizing the need for a new women's spirit.

The sentiments in her 1904 essay are products both of the times and of her own personal experiences. According to some sources, her father had been kindly and indulgent to her, but the attack on insensitive fathers in her essay does not seem to have been entirely rhetorical. We can gauge something of her negative feelings towards her deceased father from a letter she wrote in 1905, in which she pointed out that if the family would only stop spending so much on the sacrifices to his memory, then they would all have enough to eat.

On foot-binding, the strength of her emotion suggests that her own feet had been bound as a girl, and some of her poems imply that she had unbound her feet herself in later life; in another poem, she wrote that "as long as we have these tiny three-inch feet we can do absolutely nothing. We must abolish the practice."

As for arranged marriages, she once told her brother that most of her own personal troubles sprang from the central fact that she had not been free to choose her own husband and the one she had ended up with was not a decent man. Her feelings about the merchant husband from Hunan province whom her parents had compelled her to marry were expressed beyond any ambiguity when she left him, her young son, and her daughter in the summer of 1904 and took



As a serious upper-class Chinese woman Qiu Jin holds a sword, but as a student in Japan flaunts her independence by wearing Western man's clothing.

ship (with what money she could scrounge together) for Japan.

In an eight-line poem written after she left Peking, called simply "Regrets: Lines Written En Route to Japan," Qiu Jin summed up her life at twenty-six:

Sun and moon have no light left, earth is dark;
Our women's world is sunk so deep, who can help us?
Jewelry sold to pay this trip across the seas,
Cut off from my family I leave my native land.
Unbinding my feet I clean out a thousand years of poison,
With heated heart arouse all women's spirits.
Alas, this delicate kerchief here is half stained with blood, and half with tears.

The Chinese students studying in Japan, among whom she now found herself, were in a paradoxical situation. By leaving home they had deliberately turned their backs on the traditional pattern of the Confucian educational system, and though in many cases they had been chosen for study abroad by senior Qing officials in their home provinces, and received comfortable stipends as long as they enrolled in an accredited Japanese school and followed a formal course of study, their chances of getting regular employment when they returned to China were by no means assured. They were closely watched by representatives of the Qing government in Japan, and they were expected to behave with decorum; yet at the same time they were subjected to an extraordinary flood of new ideas and experiences and were made acutely aware of the weakness of the Qing dynasty and its backwardness in comparison to the Meiji government in Japan.

When the Japanese defeated the Tsarist armies in the war of 1904-1905 and prevented their encroaching farther into Manchuria, the admiration of these Chinese students was unbounded. Japan's victory demonstrated with renewed vividness how the Meiji reforms had strengthened the entire nation, and in rejoicing that an Asian nation had at last defeated a major European power, the Chinese felt that much of the shame over their own defeat at the hands of the Japanese in 1894 was expunged.

In a poem in heroic vein Qiu Jin praised the Japanese victory over the "powerful, devious, and absolutely untrustworthy" Russians, who had seized Chinese territory despite the protests of the whole world; she contrasted them with the unified front of the Japanese, in which the country rose up as one and women volunteers serving with the Red Cross were allowed to accompany their men to war.

In Japan, too, she found friends among the exiled leaders of the anti-Manchu risings. Qiu

Jin had been in Peking during the Boxer Rebellion and had witnessed the shame of the allied occupation of the city; now, as she read the magazines published by Chinese student groups in Japan, she was presented with emotion-charged essays that attacked the Manchus as being of racial stock inferior to the Chinese, that exalted the act of assassination as a means of arousing the people to revolutionary action.

In her poems Qiu Jin began to invoke the spirit of Rousseau and the Polish patriots who had struggled for their freedom. She saluted an assassination attempt on the five Qing commissioners as an endeavour to bring some spirit back to the Chinese people, who had been "dead for more than two hundred years".

The Chinese studying in Japan often chibbed together according to provincial origin; hence Qiu Jin, who had been born in Zhejiang province, had married a Hunanese, and then had lived as a young mother in Peking, met and became active with people from all these areas. While she was technically enrolled in the Aoyama Vocational Girls School in Tokyo, she was working with a society of women progressives and writing essays for *The Vernacular Journal*, which had been founded by Chinese students in Tokyo. She joined an overseas branch of the Triad secret society in Yokohama, and in the summer of 1905 she was admitted to the ranks of the Revolutionary Alliance, a new, centralized organization formed by Sun Yat-sen and his supporters.

She was not sure how to define her identity as a woman revolutionary. On one level she glorified the martial arts, marksmanship, and bomb-making of her male comrades; in tender poems she also spoke of her women friends and their own needs and aspirations. At some stage, in Tokyo, she had herself photographed in male Western attire — dark three-button suit, wing collar, soft cloth cap, dusty walking shoes — and holding a cane. In a wry poem she commented on this person she saw gazing back at herself:

Who is this person, staring at me so sternly?
The martial bones I bring from a former existence regret the flesh that covers them.
Once life is over, the body itself will not be seen to have been a deception.
And the land of ours that has not yet emerged, that will be real.
You and I should have got together long ago, and shared our feelings.
Looking out across these difficult times our spirits garner strength.
When you see my friends from the old days
Tell them I've scrubbed off all that old mud.

Despite the excitement of discovering a new mode of existence, she was constantly short of money in Japan and felt the pain of separation from her family. But when her elder brother Yuxiang, apparently responding to her mood of dejection, wrote to her on behalf of the family, suggesting that she return to China and make up with her former husband, Qiu Jin's response (dated June 19, 1905), in which she summarized her views of her former husband's character, was unambiguous:

"That person's behaviour is worse than an animal's. I have never known human shamelessness like it. Now that he has seized my remaining jewelry, how can we even think of him as being a human? He treats me as less than nothing, and I am sure that the reason for his taking my money and possessions is that he wants to finish me off. My treatment in that household was worse than a slave's; the poison of hatred has eaten deeply into me. If I am treated decently I respond decently; if I am treated as being of no account, then I respond in the same way — it's not that I have no feelings. When I think of him my hair bristles with anger, it's absolutely unbearable.

"Send my sister to try to get my money back — if he won't give it up, then sever all relations. I have thought this through fairly thoroughly: rather than be treated as a slave, why should I not stand up for myself? Henceforth I am going to try to support myself through my own efforts; why should I be somebody's wife? Besides which, we hate each other so much that nothing good could come of it.

There has been no letter from him for a year, he has shown no respect to his seniors in my family, and I have also heard that he has taken a new wife.

"If any of the sentiments I have just expressed prove to be mere rhetoric, may the gods above abandon me. If I progress even one inch, I shall never let his family name be used on top of mine. If I cannot progress even that inch, and am unable to support myself, then I shall sue him to get back my son, my daughter, and my property. If the suit fails, then I shall die."

In early 1906 Qiu Jin did in fact return to China, but not to her former husband or her family. Instead, she went to the Shanghai area, where she had formed close friendships with some of the revolutionaries, and where she could be confident of a sympathetic audience in a lively intellectual and political milieu. In Shanghai a group of radical teachers and intellectuals, several of whom had also studied in Japan, had tried to coordinate the various anti-Qing forces in the city into the Restoration Society. "Restoration" in this context had the revolutionary overtones of battling for popular and national sovereignty and had nothing to do with the "restoring" of the Emperor Guangxu.

The goal of the Shanghai group was fundamentally anti-Manchu, and was succinctly expressed in their blood oath (which echoed the words of a Song dynasty patriot repelling Jurchen invaders in the twelfth century): "Restore the Chinese race, and recover our mountains and rivers". In 1905, Restoration Society members were active in boycotts directed against American businesses, in protest against the ratification by President Theodore Roosevelt of even more stringent laws against Chinese immigration into the United States. In 1905 and the following years the society's ranks were swelled by contacts in nearby regions of northern Zhejiang province, and in late 1905 many

of the members then in Japan joined Sun Yat-sen's Revolutionary Alliance, as Qiu Jin had done.

From the time of her return to China Qiu Jin was in conflict, pulled by the sometimes parallel but more often divergent demands for gradualist reforms of benefit to women on the one hand and for violent revolutionary change on the other. She told her close friend the famous woman calligrapher Wu Zhiying that she felt herself to be different from the other youthful revolutionaries of her day: "Women must get educated and strive for their own independence; they can't just go on asking the men for everything. The young intellectuals are all chanting, 'Revolution! Revolution!' but I say the revolution will have to start in our homes, by achieving equal rights for women."

It was in this vein that she founded and wrote for *The Chinese Women's Journal* in Shanghai, taught at a local girls' school near the city, and translated selections from Japanese works on health care and nursing — as if she accepted her own calculation that a slow shift of women's position in society, if undertaken through education, would make several decades. Yet at the same time she felt drawn to the life of violent revolutionary activism, was attracted by those selfsame young people who cried, "Revolution!" and feared lest life was racing past her. We know from one of her poems that she felt old at twenty-seven, and sick at heart that she had "accomplished nothing".

At this juncture Qiu Jin's career intermeshed with that of a cousin, a fellow native of the prosperous Zhejiang city of Shaoxing, named Xu Xilin. Xu, thirty-three years old in 1906, had had a restless and varied career that had taken him to Japan and had led him into the ranks of the Restoration Society (though he refused to join Sun Yat-sen's Revolutionary Alliance) and then into the edges of the military and police bureaucracy.

Leaders in the Restoration Society were eager to foment a rebellion in Zhejiang and thought that both Xu Xilin and Qiu Jin might be capable leaders. The idea appealed to them, for each had a full measure of that recklessness which one can find among certain people in any revolutionary situation: this is not that neglect of consequences to oneself which is needed to lead organized forces into war, or even that desperation necessary to charge police lines or storm barricades, but rather, a recklessness concerning all possible consequences, which invites discovery and punishment even as it seems to promise inviolability. Thus, although the "revolutionary forces" they could call upon in Zhejiang consisted of little more than a loose confederation of partially Westernized intellectuals, a few students returned from Japan, some members of local secret societies in alliance with salt smugglers, and perhaps some disaffected soldiers in the provincial garrison forces, both Qiu and Xu proceeded to act as though they were the ones who



controlled the situation while the Qing dynasty had no resources left whatsoever.

In these circumstances Qiu Jin played out the final act in her drama. The actual setting was the Datong School, an institution that exemplified both the boldness and impracticality of the Zhejiang revolutionaries. It had been established by Xu Xilin in the early summer of 1905 as a front organization to conceal the stocks of guns and ammunition he had purchased in Shanghai that spring, and the first programme organized by the school with official blessing was a six-month training session for rural militia organizers, though it also offered classes in English, Japanese, physics, and art.

After Xu left the Datong School in late 1905, a succession of leaders and many quarrels weakened it considerably, but in 1907 Qiu Jin was appointed to the faculty, a job she combined with directing a local girls' school and a physical-education association.

Far from attempting to pose as a retiring schoolteacher, Qiu Jin drew adverse attention from the conservative local elite by riding into town astride on horseback, dressed in Western male attire, and by encouraging her girl students to engage in military drills. Qiu had been given the task of coordinating secret-society activities with the Restoration Society's risings and with Xu Xilin; this task proved difficult, however, since Xu was some distance away, having accepted the directorship of the police academy at Anqing, to the west, in Anhui province. Qiu Jin did draw up elaborate plans for the military organization, down to details of uniforms and of their flag — which she envisioned as being a giant version of the ideograph for "Han Chinese," in black, sewn on to a pure white ground. She also held a number of meetings, raised funds, and tried to keep communications open by courier.

But in reaching out to the broader masses who might have supported a revolution she had no experience whatever. Perhaps the closest she had come to the Chinese working poor was when she was cramped in among the coolies while travelling third class to Japan, but then as she told her friend Wu Zhiying — she had always carried a dagger for protection.

In Zhejiang, at any rate, she was never able to reach down beyond the level of the local secret-society leaders, though the province was ripe for social violence: desperate peasantry had endured successive years of near-famine, poor conditions in the province were exacerbated by the presence of thousands of refugees from outside Zhejiang, and the poorer townsmen of Shaoxing had rioted twice for food in 1907.

In the meantime, the Qing authorities were alarmed both by rumours of activities at Qiu Jin's school — which they searched several times in the spring and summer of 1907 — and by the possibilities of trouble at Anqing. In late June 1907, Xu was alerted to danger by the extraordinary fact that he was ordered to arrest himself — as head of the police academy he had been given the order to round up all the suspects on a list of names obtained by the government, a list that included a coded version of his own name.

His response was to try to swing his Anqing academy behind him by a violent revolutionary act. On July 13 he was able to shoot and kill the Manchu governor of Anhui province at the academy's graduation exercises, but only about thirty men joined him for what was meant to be the outbreak of the revolution. They fought for four hours, were arrested, interrogated briefly, and executed. At the request of the murdered governor's family, Xu's heart was cut out and offered to his victim's memory.

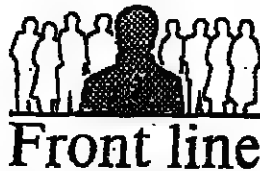
Qiu Jin learned of these events in Anqing by reading the Shanghai newspapers, but she disdained all suggestions that she flee the Datong School, although her arrest was almost a certainty. Government troops did indeed arrive in Datong on July 13. Qiu Jin and a handful of her students tried to fight off the troops but she was soon cornered and arrested. After interrogation under torture, she was beheaded on July 15.

With great regularity in her earlier poems, Qiu Jin had used her own family name of Qiu, which in Chinese has the literal meaning of "autumn", and in scores of punning, alliterative lines that linked "Qiu" to words for rain and wind, she evoked the chill dampness of the season, which seemed a fitting commentary on her own depressed existence as a young married woman. This period had been succeeded by one in which she showed a more spirited self-consciousness concerning her role as a woman, and which in turn led to the heights of revolutionary bravado. But in the moments before her execution Qiu Jin wrote a final line of verse that returned to the earlier themes and because of its resonance ensured that her sorrowful side rather than the analytical or martial one would live on more vividly in the memories of her people: "Autumn rain, autumn wind, they make one die of sorrow."

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From *The Gate of Heavenly Peace: The Chinese and Their Revolution, 1895-1980*, by Jonathan D. Spence, which is to be published on February 15 by Faber at £11.50.

Dorothy Tutin

who stars in BBC 1's Play for Today "Life After Death"
by Rachel Billington, transmitted next Tuesday



Front line

Dorothy Tutin has been eyeing the progress of her career with some uncertainty. It appears to her to lack a pattern, and that prompts her to recall with some alarm from the suggestion that she might attempt her memoirs. "I couldn't do it. I can't see anything I could write down in any definable way. It's rather frightening attempting to extract any pattern. An actress often feels defined by the part she happens to be acting at the time. So I have no idea how I would tie it all together. And you have to be a good writer. I can barely put two sentences together, but I love English and I couldn't stand it if it wasn't good English."

She has lived in semi-rural seclusion in the London suburb of Barnes for the past 15 years. It is a place which has something of her personality, being part of a larger, cruder entity — in her case show business — and being, serene enough to assert its independence. She cycles round the place thinking happily, lately at least, that it will probably be just the same when she is old and grey. Even recent consideration that her local dentist would survive her was cause for a brief epiphany.

But the random serenity is currently disturbed by a nervous sense that she is not working as hard as she would like. Nevertheless television is looming large at the moment: apart from *Life After Death*, she is to appear in a *Tales of the Unexpected* as well as the BBC version of Schmitz's *La Ronde*. Next month she also starts work for a series on Yorkshire in which she plays Marjorie Asquith. "It is so odd. My first film was for Anthony Asquith — *The Importance of Being Earnest* — now I'm playing his mother, it gives me such a strange feeling."

She enjoys filming for television. She thrives on the sense that she is working fast out all day. "It all happens so swiftly, it's quite relentless really. Mind you it was the same on the last cinema film I made, *Savage Messiah*, when Ken Russell had us working all day and every day. When you work like that it's easy to forget the



Conrad Halpern/Retna

camera. When I was younger I was terribly self-conscious. I didn't feel in tune with cameras. It's difficult when you have certain features that are hard to light — they used to say my nose cast a shadow or something."

In reality, she admits to a regret that she has worked little in the cinema. Film-

makers do not seem to approach her. She has no idea why except "I think if you start by making films you tend to carry on making films."

Life After Death, written by Rachel Billington, involved a month's filming in a cramped house in Hampstead Garden Suburb. "We didn't rehearse scenes at all. We just did all kinds of improvisations beforehand with various combinations of members of the family. By the time we turned up to do the scenes we had all decided that Johnny — the man who had died — was a big man and the house was just too small."

"It was a pity they had to make about 20 minutes of cuts and that meant taking out a lot of the scenes which showed more of the family. I liked those, though I could see they could be taken out."

As for the subject, and its almost documentary treatment by Rachel Billington and Anthony Simmons, the director, the problem it presented was how to act a state of shock lasting over the three days of fictional time. "How can you generalize about widowhood? In the play she doesn't realize what

has happened until the very end. She doesn't connect with the people around her. It must be a feeling of amputation, not of being ill but not quite in contact for the time being, especially with sudden death. I don't know how comforting it might be for widows who see it but I think anything that comforts anybody is enormously valuable."

There is one other ambition to which she confesses — she would like to be an impresario. "I would love to be more adventurous, to bring together some of the talents I know and put on a play. There are some wonderful writers who simply never get performed, like John Whiting — he's loved by actors but not by the public or managements. Some plays are also staged in the wrong way the first time and then just vanish. There are many good plays that are just left lying around when the first performance doesn't work. It must be a bitter disappointment for the dramatists. I would like to initiate some rediscovery." And it might even set a pattern.

Bryan Appleyard

Bruckner: Symphony No 2. Staatskapelle Dresden/Jochum. EMI ASD 4081.

Wolff: Penthesilea/Der Corregidor Suite. Suisse Romande/Stein. Decca SKL 6985.

Zemlinsky: Lyric Symphony. Berlin PO/Maazel/Varady/Fischer-Dieskau. DG 2532 023.

With eager new year resolve, the major record companies are zealously sprinkling their January and February catalogues with a number of under-recorded works, hitherto degrees of justification. The Dresden Staatskapelle Orchestra, who won high praise when they visited London last autumn, present Leopold Nowak's edition of the 1877 version of one of Bruckner's least-recorded symphonies. It is the quality of the string playing above all that marks out this performance: its fine-grained, perfectly proportioned and discreetly individual character never draws attention to itself, but, alert to Jochum's gently flexing tempi, breathes the light air, moving with the stringing tread of this "spring" symphony. Such is the unity of Jochum's reading that some may even find the Scherzo, for instance, over-blown, under-driven, and the much reduced coda to the finale a too easy summation.

Since the Wolf Society's box of songs appeared last year, more of Wolf's other compositions have been appearing on record to redress the balance. The latest is the understandably neglected *Penthesilea*, a crudely Wagnerian symphonic poem which sounds like a rather second-rate film score for Kleist's drama of the Amazon Queen's tortured love for Achilles. Horst Stein and his players make a more persuasive case for the far more persuasive music from Wolf's only complete opera, *Der Corregidor*. The light-handed, flirtatious Fendula, so damned by the Miller's wife, the live current of wind playing in the whirling, balletic Spanish intermezzo, and the deftly woven veil of string writing in the Nocturne, are lively

advocates for wider interest in the opera itself.

"A fine composer, unjustly neglected" was how Helene Berg described Alexander Zemlinsky, colleague of Mahler, teacher of Schoenberg, and champion of the Second Viennese School. Last year's Prom performance of the Lyric Symphony, this, its first generally available recording, and the presentation of two of his operas at Edinburgh this year are signs of a wider interest and reassessment. His Lyric Symphony attracts comparisons with Mahler, Schoenberg and Wagner in its form, vocal writing and harmonies; yet, from the setting of the first of seven love poems by Tagore, it is a distinctively individual voice and sensibility that speaks out in its continuous symphonic structure, the voice enters and focuses the shifting phases of its dreamlike existence. Zemlinsky's rigorous selection and scaling of orchestral forces, the innate classicism toughening its fevered emotional life, are emphasized by Maazel's hard-edged direction. Fischer-Dieskau's strong, bittersweet singing, and Julia Varady's fine-drawn, malleable handling of the volatile vocal line.

Schoenberg's own early Chamber Symphony, the beatings of its late Romantic heart concentrated into the voices of 15 solo-instruments, is given an affectionate, sharply detailed performance by members of the Berlin Philharmonic in a particularly illuminating, close digital recording. It provides a wider arbitrary coupling for the first recording of Giacomo Manzoni's *Homage to Edvard Vartse/Schoenberg*, composed in 1977 and dedicated to Maurizio Pollini. He it is who charges the low battery of musical ideas, the piano fracturing, urging on and obligingly relating to a cumulative series of stress-points, built from an increasingly predictable inventory of "experimental" instrumental effects. Overheated, yet cold of heart, this nervy yet curiously undisturbing tribute dances rather than engages response, while the perversely obscure, printed commentary would provide a good month's supply of Peude Corner entries.

Hilary Finch Recalled to life

Bruckner: Symphony No 2. Staatskapelle Dresden/Jochum. EMI ASD 4081.

William Mann Stravinsky in toto

Rosen. But here is "Piano Rag Music" played by Stravinsky and the Duo Concertant with Saligne and the composer. The Concerto for Two Pianos is in the old performance by Vronsky and Barin.

Radio/David Wade

Repeat, repeat, repeat

Scientifically Speaking (Radio 3) seldom moves into the field of psychology, so the participation last Wednesday of Dr Donald Broadbent of the Oxford University Department of Experimental Psychology promised an interesting half hour. Indeed it was, though perhaps not entirely for the reasons suggested by Dr Broadbent and his interrogator, the programme's regular anchor man, John Maddox.

Broadbent and his colleagues, we learned, have been studying production line workers at a British Leyland plant to gauge the effects of repetitive work. The common-sense prediction here, apparently, is that repetition in itself — and particularly over a very short cycle — will be psychologically damaging, leading to apathy and depression.

What emerged is that, while doing the same short task hour after hour is hardly fulfilling, it does seem to be relatively innocuous. It is easy to make assumptions about their inner state, whereas in fact the routine may be claiming only 10 per cent of their attention. A longer cycle on an implacably moving line appears less automating, but may claim rather more attention than the worker wants to give.

If we could just set appearances aside, our own powers of self-observation could surely tell us what Broadbent with expense and effort has found. Of course, self-observation is a tool scientists look at with suspicion. Furthermore, in this case the appearances convey a beguiling social and political message: "Look at those automatized workers —

and so will their children, I hope."

The rehearsal side suffers from a very special ailment, but gains by its inimitable oblique dicta: "The F is always suspicious." "I am a maker," "I can wait, as an insect can wait," more enigmatic, "129 right to Budapest, irresistible." "Excuse me, please, I like my music as me too. Grandpa, no excuse required."

Radio 2's *The London Palladium Story* on the other hand knew just what it was aiming at and hit it. Michael Pointon's script combined famous songs with famous reminiscences to make this eight-part history a lovely easy listen. It even survived Max Bygraves reading the links as if he had never seen them in his life before.

It has its moments, most of them in the spoof commercials which Jon Canter has provided as a kind of chorus to the action; and then there is Martin Jarvis's delightfully throw-away performance as our struggling adman. But the serious, but gains by its inimitable oblique dicta: "The F is always suspicious." "I am a maker," "I can wait, as an insect can wait," more enigmatic, "129 right to Budapest, irresistible." "Excuse me, please, I like my music as me too. Grandpa, no excuse required."

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Paul Griffiths Forming fours

John Foulds: Quartetto intimo; Lento quieto; Aquarelles. Endellion Quartet. Pearl SHE 554.

Borodin: String quartets. Fitzwilliam Quartet. Decca SKL 6983.

Mozart: Piano quartets. Klien/Amadeus Quartet. DG 2531 368, [C] 3301 368.

Schubert: String quartets in G minor D173 and B flat D 112. Allegri Quartet. Argo ZKG96.

Schubert: Secular vocal music. Soloists/Bavarian Radio Chorus/Sawallisch. EMI SLS 5220 (discs).

Only three years old, the Endellion Quartet have already established themselves among the happily full ranks of excellent quartets in this country, and their first record brings great satisfaction. It will also bring a revelation to anyone not familiar with the *Quartetto intimo* of John Foulds, who was born in Manchester just over a century ago and whose music has been all but forgotten since his death in Calcutta in 1939.

Despite its title, the quartet is not at all "intimate" in character but big, crammed with creative vigour and expressive purpose. At times there is a harmonic and rhythmic exuberance that looks forward to Tippett, while the slow movement — and even more so the *Lento quieto* from Foulds's next and last quartet, also recorded here — has a haunting intensity of a Mahler adagio.

The quartet is altogether a very remarkable work, and one that can even take its place with others from the great harvest of string quartets of the Thirties, those of Schoenberg and Bridge.

Another young British ensemble, the Fitzwilliam, offer better known repertoire in their new pairing of the Borodin quartets, though here too there are qualities of perfect technique, expressive and textural richness, and great confidence that show the music at its very best. The atmosphere of Turkish Delight is well dispelled by these players' tactful presentation of the themes, and both works are very engagingly shown as the music of a native in a foreign land, open and full in tone.

I cannot, however, recommend anyone to invest in the new box of Schubert's choral music. Certainly we need an anthology to include such masterpieces as the *Gesang der Geister über den Wassern*, but the present selection includes a great number of back-slapping drinking songs and other unlovely trivia, and worse still, the Bavarian choir seem to think they have been engaged for a camp-fire sing-song. Shading and sensitivity to words are not exactly strong points, while soloists such as Brigitte Fassbender and Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, even, understandably, quite out of their element.

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Oh what a lovely wallow

Fauré: *Pénélope*. Norman-Tailon/Vanzo/Huttenlocher/Van Dam/Monte Carlo PO/Dutoit. Erato STU 71386 (3 discs).

Louis Tetrazini. Complete Recordings. Pearl GEMM 220-227 (8 discs).

Laurita Melchior. Pearl GEMM 228-229 (2 discs).

An opera by Fauré's *Pénélope* is a late work, composed for Monte Carlo, where it was given its premiere in 1913. A few months after the Director of the Paris Conservatoire, composer of songs, piano pieces and other chamber music admired widely, made his debut at the Opera. *Pénélope* remained in regular repertory at the Palais Garnier until 1949, and still gets performances here and there occasionally (it was given here at the Royal Academy of Music in 1970, and on Radio 3 four years later). For this studio recording, Erato moved their soloists to the scene of the premiere, the other Palais Garnier.

The story is that of Monteverdi's *Ritorno d'Ulisse*, treated however with a different flavour and post-Wagnerian thematic technique. In many of the solos and duets the music recalls the sound-world of Fauré's songs, but the prelude and some later orchestral passages suggest Wagner. As music-drama *Pénélope* moves slowly, but it is a lovely wallow, to which Jessye Norman responds with dignity and tenderness, impassioned in *Pénélope's* longing for Ulysses, here decaying to some rough tones apart, by Alain Vanzo. Jocelyn Tailon's Euryclea, and the Eumaeus of Jose Van Dam, also stand out. Charles Dutoit's reading has real authority, though the stage oblique orchestra balance varies disconcertingly. The illustrated booklet, with tiring text, is full of interest; one small solo role is unidentified.

Of the Pearl reissues, the Tetrazini box recommends itself, and it included some hitherto unpublished items. Of course there is some duplication of repertory, but that is instructive. The Melchior selection chiefly explores her early Wagner records of the 1920s, with a couple of excursions into live performances of the next decade (the very young Flagstad, slender and agile of voice, as Brinnhilde). Young Melchior had the handsomest *Heldentenor* voice I have ever heard, and its qualities are enjoyed also in items from Verdi's *Aida* and *Otello*, and in Camille's "On with the Mole!" in German, but not unlikely Teutonic. The transcriptions are unvarnished, sometimes imperfect, like the singing — and that is instructive too.

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ROYAL ALBERT HALL
Kensington, SW7 2AP

TONIGHT at 7.30 p.m.
TCHAIKOVSKY EVENING
Fantasy-Overture: Romeo & Juliet (original version)
Music from The Nutcracker
Piano Concerto No. 1
Overture "1812"
with Cannon & Mortar Effects
Young Musicians' Symphony Orchestra
PHILIP FOWKE piano
JAMES BLAIR conductor
Box: £1.50, £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50, £6.50, £7.50, £8.50, £9.50, £10.50, £11.50, £12.50, £13.50, £14.50, £15.50, £16.50, £17.50, £18.50, £19.50, £20.50, £21.50, £22.50, £23.50, £24.50, £25.50, £26.50, £27.50, £28.50, £29.50, £30.50, £31.50, £32.50, £33.50, £34.50, £35.50, £36.50, £37.50, £38.50, £39.50, £40.50, £41.50, £42.50, £43.50, £44.50, £45.50, £46.50, £47.50, £48.50, £49.50, £50.50, £51.50, £52.50, £53.50, £54.50, £55.50, £56.50, £57.50, £58.50, £59.50, £60.50, £61.50, £62.50, £63.50, £64.50, £65.50, £66.50, £67.50, £68.50, £69.50, £70.50, £71.50, £72.50, £73.50, £74.50, £75.50, £76.50, £77.50, £78.50, £79.50, £80.50, £81.50, £82.50, £83.50, £84.50, £85.50, £86.50, £87.50, £88.50, £89.50, £90.50, £91.50, £92.50, £93.50, £94.50, £95.50, £96.50, £97.50, £98.50, £99.50, £100.50, £101.50, £102.50, £103.50, £104.50, £105.50, £106.50, £107.50, £108.50, £109.50, £110.50, £111.50, £112.50, £113.50, £114.50, £115.50, £116.50, £117.50, £118.50, £119.50, £120.50, £121.50, £122.50, 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New York/John Heilpern

A salute to Bambi's father

Recently visiting the excellent Philadelphia Museum of Art to partake of the goodies — among them, the biggest Rodin collection outside France; an important new exhibition of the civil war photographer Timothy H. Sullivan; the best Duchamp collection in America; several wonderful Cezannes (including "The Bathers") — I was struck by another exhibition that so stunned me I cannot tell even now whether I have fully recovered.

I speak of Philadelphia's major exhibition of that devoted British embodiment of Victorian virtues and Philistine the painter of sentimental anthropomorphic fantasies concerning dogs, stags, parrots, monkeys and various other beasts, Sir Edwin Landseer. It was Landseer (1802-73) who became the most famous artist of his day — the only painter, says the critic Robert Hughes, points out, who ever became a court favourite and a national cultural hero by painting dogs.

This startling revisionism in modernist America of Landseer's art has been achieved — or attempted — in partnership with the Tate Gallery in London. On February 10 the Tate is to remount the Landseer show, perhaps in the hope that Queen Victoria's favourite painter, "my Edwin", will be returned to his former glory.

Perhaps he will. In the mid-1950s Sir Herbert Read with Philip Hendy, then director of the National Gallery, and John Glynne, then director of the Tate, condemned Landseer to international oblivion.

In the 1980s, Mr Richard Ormond of the National Gallery helped select the Landseers for Philadelphia and wrote the bulk of the glowing catalogue, while Mr Alan Bowness, director of the Tate, speaking on its behalf, declared that "as the national museum of British art, it is interested in a serious reassessment of this major British artist's work."

And here is Mr Joseph Rishel of the Philadelphia Museum quoting with approval the words of Théophile Gautier: "Of what does the hunting dog dream near the hearth, the stag raising to the sky its black and glossy muzzle from which drip strands of saliva? Landseer will tell you in four strokes of his brush. He is, in intimate terms with beasts: the dog, giving him a shake of the paw like a comrade, tells him the news of the kennel; the sheep, blinking its pale eyes, bleats out its innocent complaints to him; the stag, which like a woman has the gift of tears, comes to weep on his breast over the cruelty of man..."

May I, as they say in America, be totally frank? I have nothing against tearful stags, bleating sheep, or talking dogs. Or, indeed, against paintings of talking dogs, and the like. I will even concede that the companionship of a dog — "first to welcome, foremost to defend" — may on occasion be preferable to that of human beings, such as one's wife or child, on a bad day. However, after viewing canvas upon canvas of Sir Edwin Landseer's canine allegories, I am not prepared to concede

that the human race should be replaced by dogs. Furthermore, the sweetly pathetic fallacies of Landseer's canine world, though the most class-conscious little doggies I have ever seen. These obsequious and patronizing dogs serve only to rejoice smugly in the natural order of the Victorian world.

It is surprising, then, that the resurrection of this most English of artists should first take place in America. The nineteenth century immigrant aristocrats of Philadelphia plundered the Italian Renaissance and the Old Masters: the nouveau riche barons of Chicago bought French. The rich British immigrants came to America prizing their eighteenth century English silver, furniture and ancestral portraits. But they left Landseer and his world behind.

Landseer became known in America through cheap prints made of his paintings in the nineteenth century. But the legacy of Landseer in modern America led only to advertisements and greeting card art. The image of his famous stag painting "Monarch of the Glen" was made famous in America by its use in advertisements for Dewar's whisky. Indeed, Mr Rishel of the Philadelphia Museum points out in his sunny (and mischievous) way that Landseer's noble stag became a Walt Disney prototype when, emerging from a forest, the stag saved Bambi's life. Thus, Landseer's "Monarch of the Glen" became Bambi's father in disguise.

Mr Rishel, through his special relationship with the

English art world, has also seriously revalued Landseer to find a major British talent. He and his English friends have discovered not at best a minor animal genre but a "great comic drama", a "spiritualism and grandeur", a "romantic visionary", influencing among others Philippe Rousseau and Corbet. Even the critical Robert Hughes links the misty crags and gleams of Landseer's highland romanticism of Caspar Friedrich. And to be sure, one cannot view this monumental Landseer show without at least being struck by the agonized spirit that created some of the last bleak paintings.

But by then, Landseer was virtually insane. "Flogging would be mild compared to my suffering," he wrote to his sister. Though he had his first mental breakdown in his thirties, he held on to his sentimentalized animal kingdom as the doomed Lord Sebastian of *Brideshead* clung to his teddy bear, Aloysius. When, aged 50, he visited Chatsworth, he was overwhelmed by the great works of art he saw there. He wrote that he felt like "a horrid impostor".

Yet on the day of his funeral, flags flew at half mast, his renowned sons in Trafalgar square were draped with wreaths, and crowds lined the streets as the funeral cortege moved towards St Paul's, where he was buried. I dare say that crowds will soon be lining the streets of Philadelphia. Don't take my word for anything — except, perhaps, *cave canem*.



The Gull, by Robert Gibbins: good impressions count.

"gents" and "ladies" respectively. More ingenious is the suggestion that the piece is not complete in itself; the space within the rather ill-proportioned legs was originally used to store some thing useful such as the folding steps that were once common use for climbing into a four-poster bed.

Another reader suggests that it was a piece of dining room rather than bedroom furniture. It was the custom in larger country houses to have chamber pots in the dining room for use by the gentleman once the ladies

had "withdrawn". Hence the disguise. Admirers of Albert Goodwin (1845-1932), the British watercolourist, should make certain of visiting Malcomb Street, Belgrave, before February 9. The touring exhibition organized by the Bolton Museum, including 120 drawings and watercolours, is on show in Sotheby's Belgrave gallery. Across the road, Christopher Wood, the dealer specializing in nineteenth-century painting, is showing another 30 or so paintings and watercolours for sale.

Chess/Harry Golombek

Sons and players

From quite a number of anecdotes about the way in which Joseph Haydn praised Mozart I particularly relish the occasion on which the two had just played Mozart's Hunt quartet, Haydn on the first violin and Mozart on the first viola. Addressing the audience, which consisted of Mozart's father, Leopold, Haydn said: "I swear to you before God that I consider your son to be the greatest composer I know."

I wonder, if I were addressing Bobby Fischer's father, whether I would say something similar about his offspring? The question as to whether Bobby Fischer was the greatest chess player of all time was much debated in the early 1970s before and after he won the world championship in 1972.

I remember discussing the matter with the late Dr Euwe on the final day of the Interzonal at Mallorca which Fischer won so resoundingly in 1970. He had won it with the terrific score of 18½ points out of 23, no fewer than 3½ points ahead of the second-placed grandmasters, Geller, Hubner and Larsen, and it was then that Dr Euwe said to me that he thought Fischer was the greatest player ever.

But then, seeing by my dubious expression that I did not wholly agree, he added "Well, perhaps Paul Morphy". I was not in fact thinking of Morphy. I had in mind the great 18th century French player, Philidor, whose remarkable ideas about pawn play were about 200 years in advance of his time. Then, too, I had afterthoughts about such chess geniuses as Lasker,

Capablanca and Alekhine, to mention them in chronological order. I would be hard put to it to determine which was indeed the greatest.

Such matters are much easier to decide nowadays when we have the Elo rating system to guide us. The weekly list I received the FIDE rating list that was valid from January 1 of this year. In it the world champion, Anatoly Karpov, was astronomically first once again with 2,720 points. He had advanced 20 points from the previous list that was published on July 1 1981. Viktor Korchnoi, who was second then with 2,695, has declined to third place with 2,645 points and now the young Dutch grandmaster, Jan Timman, is second with 2,655.

Harry Kasparov, who is 18, has maintained his fourth position but, with 2,640 points, has 10 more than in the previous list. Next comes Lajos Portisch (Hungary) 2,630; Boris Spassky (USSR) 2,625; Robert Hubner (West Germany) 2,620; Alexander Beliavsky (USSR) and Henrique Mecking (Brazil) 2,615. It should however be noted, alas, that Mecking is still seriously ill in hospital.

Some famous names have 2,605: Ulf Andersson (Sweden), Bent Larsen (Denmark), Tigran Petrosian and Mikhail Tal (USSR). And then with 2,600 Ljubomir Ljubojevic (Yugoslavia) and Vitaly Cseshkovsky (both USSR) more points than previous victors of Pologajevs (USSR) 10 points less. After Yuri Balashov and Vitaly Cseshkovsky (both USSR) with 2,595 points we have the highest placed British player, grandmaster John Nunn, who is joint

eighteenth with 2,590, an advance of 10 points over last time. Also on 10 points more is Tony Miles who, with 2,575, is joint twenty-seventh; another British grandmaster who has made a marked advance is Jonathan Speelman, who is joint thirty-fifth with 2,550 points, 15 more than last time.

The January issue of *Schaken Nederland*, the Dutch national chess magazine, is largely devoted to commemorating Dr Euwe, who died at the age of 80 on November 26 last year. In it the international master Hans Bouwmeester, himself a fine player and an excellent teacher of chess, has some pertinent and touching things to say about the great man and he gives the last game Euwe played, which was in a club match in which he played for Volmac Rotterdam against Eindhoven shortly before his eightieth birthday.

White: R. Moonen Black: Dr M. Euwe Q. P. Veresov system.

1 P-Q4 N-K5
2 P-K3 P-B4
3 P-Q3 B-B4
4 P-K3

A somewhat tame continuation, more aggressive was 4 P-B3 with the idea of an eventual P-K4 (after BxN).

Otherwise Black captures the QP and gives White doubled and isolated pawns.

12 P-K4 N-Q2
13 B-B2 Q-B3
14 P-B4 P-B2

Or 14 P-Q4 P-B5; 15 Q-B2 P-Q3; 16 P-K4 P-B7; 17 QxP-Q4; 18 N-Q6, N-N3.

15 R-K1 P-K1
16 QxP ch R-K1
17 P-K5 Q-R1
18 P-B2 Q-R1
19 B-B1 Q-B2

And not 19... QxP-B2, R-K1 when White can eventually play R-K7 with an overwhelming game.

30 P-Q4
31 P-K3 P-B3
32 Q-K7 P-B3
33 Q-B6 Q-K4
34 Q-R1 R-Q4
35 P-K4 Q-B6

Not now 25... P-B5; because of 26 R-K1, P-B7; 27 Q-N7, R-K1; 28 R-K3 and White wins.

Bridge/Jeremy Flint

Taking trouble

Carlyle defines genius as "the transcendent capacity of taking trouble"; that may be a little sweeping but it provides an admirable guideline for the aspiring bridge player. The hands I shall describe require no genius, only the ability to focus the mind on the critical points and the avoidance of careless error. Rubber bridge. Game all. Dealer North.

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South made a fortunate choice when he jumped to 5 Diamonds over his partner's strong no trump opening. "Might have missed it, partner," he said gleefully, as he ruffed West's 4K. He drew the enemy trumps in one round and continued with a heart to dummy's 9 which lost to East's 10. East got off the pique in deep water because then your heels drop in at the back.

"Thank you, partner, seven's on a finesse," South said as North put down his hand. He won the first trick with dummy's 4A, discarding a club, and immediately finessed the 4Q, which won. South opened his mouth to speak. "Just make six," said North through gritted teeth. East covered dummy's 4J with the 4K and West ruffed South's 4A.

West switched to a trump. It dawned on South too late that there were now only two trumps in dummy to ruff his three losing spades. In the vain hope that the clubs would divide three-three, he cashed the 4A and ruffed a club. He returned to dummy with a trump. The third round of clubs revealed that there was to be no salvation from that suit.

"Don't tell me I could have made that contract," he pleaded pathetically. "Evidently you could not." "Thank goodness," said South, considerably consoled. "That is to say," North continued, "an unambitious player who was content to make his contract without an overtrick could have succeeded. Such a player would have withheld his 4A on the second round of the suit, and subsequently ruffed his two losing spades in dummy. But the fire of your noble optimism is unquenchable."

Two rounds of trumps revealed that West had

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Mid season ski report

Scorpions/Harold Evans

Readers' reports

Four weeks ago in *The Times* I recommended the revolutionary new ski, the Scorpion, a broad 106 cm ski with positive carving arc. I invited anyone with experience of the Scorpion to write in since the snobbery of skiing, and certainly the attitude in the resorts, discourages anything as short as the new Scorpion which is not merely a training ski but a ski for all grades, weights and ages.

The response has been heavily favourable. Because people have had a chance to try it. But the testimony so far is five to one in favour.

These are extracts from some of the letters:

Mrs Alexandra Galliers-Pratt, 3 Fildes Street, London SW6:

"Scorpion skis are life savers. My husband was very rude about them and so were our great friends with whom we always stay in Garsaid. Oh, they said, 'you won't be able to go off the piste.' I did. Oh, they won't be any good on ice.' They were. Oh, you won't be able to keep up. I do, and sometimes I even overtake them."

"The ski guides are all rude about them but I go everywhere with them and I am now completely fearless, on and off the piste."

"My only complaint, though small, is that they are hopeless on the flat or walking up slopes off the piste in deep snow because then your heels drop in at the back."

John Bull, 25 Grenville Road, Southampton, Hampshire:

"Two of our party could be described as scaled intermediates and we tried a pair of Scorpion skis at Meribel last week (January 9 to 16). One is 24 and I am 46. We've both had some years' experience, having through fear, where any improvement would mean lots of lessons and a long, hard slog. We were delighted to find that the 106 cm Scorpions gave us the same wonderful release as the Voloski. After a couple of runs, heavy mogul fields and gun barrels were a piece of cake."

Robert Turner, 2 Dr Johnson's Buildings, London EC4Y 7AY:

"Scorpions have transformed my skiing. After 20 years I had, at 46, become a little frightened of some aspects. In particular I was finding the steeper slopes more difficult and, as a barrier, I worried that serious injury might prevent my carrying on my practice. The Scorpions lived up to their claims. I was able to turn with ease in conditions and on slopes which I would not have attempted before. The French observed them with amusement but I think I sold at least half a dozen pairs to interested English people."

Mr J. G. Sprat, East Anglian Magazine, 6 Great Colman Street, Ipswich, who passed his SCGB bronze test 20 years ago at the age of 42. He added rightly, that the price of the skis at £79 does not include bindings, and that many bindings with brakes will not fit the Scorpion because it is a wide ski. He is trying a pair of Scorpions £268 (£39.50).

"Remember standing at the top of a red run, such as the

Eigerjetcher and peering down into a virtually verminous snow broken by bumps, bumps and moguls, and wondering how on earth you were going to get down? With Scorpion skis there are no problems. The fall line is the most frightening phrase in the English language — disappear! — and again I would come unflinching down slopes so steep that in past years I would have regarded them as not negotiable. "Disadvantages: Going up in drag lift with anyone else is a pleasurable pursuit. In deep snow your heels sink badly on the lift, and you need a steeper chairlift to get going off the piste than normal skis. These are minor impediments."

Dennis Vernon, Appleby Castle, Cumbria:

Shoparound with Beryl Downing

Ms M & S makes her mark

Next week in London there will be an exhibition of modern graphics designed for some of the country's top boardrooms. The prints, which include Hockneys, Nolans, Sutherlands, Caulfields, will be for sale but one company that will not be buying is Marks and Spencer — not because the chairman has no eye for art, but because the exhibitor is his wife.

It is a point that has to be made immediately because Lily Sieff has no intention of succeeding by hanging on to an M & S anorak string. Like many women who have spent 19 years being a wife and 17 being a mother, she has reached the stage where she needs to create an identity of her future. Like many women she has capitalized on an untrained talent. But, unlike most women whose husbands head multi-million pound empires, she is determined to do it alone.

She could probably have gone out one day with "Art Gallery" on her shopping list and come back with the ICA, but instead she turned one of the rooms in her London flat into an office, hired a gallery for a fortnight and put on show the sort of modern art she thought businessmen should be hanging on their office walls.

That was two years ago. The commissions began to roll in and the exhibition is now an annual event — open to private buyers as well as to companies and corporations, but with the main aim of encouraging businessmen to support the arts and at the same time to provide a pleasant working environment for their staff.

"People spend so much of their time in offices, why shouldn't they have something more interesting than a calendar to look at?" asks Lady Sieff in her attractive husky voice.

"Most people don't get the chance to see a lot of modern art — the best that offices provide are traditional lithographs of London scenes and yet the office is such an ideal place to show modern art — just living with it helps the eye to get used to it and automatically more interest is



Lady Sieff with one of her original prints by Henry Moore.

generated. It's also an encouragement to the younger and less established artists."

She breaks off with an apologetic smile — "I'm sorry, I'm beginning to sound like a missionary, but I do get very serious about it. It is not something I am playing at."

She answered the accusation before it was made, not because she is practised at fending off awkward questions, for she rarely gives interviews, but because in addition to elegance, warmth, humour and disarming self-doubt, she has an ability to tune her instinct with the sudden clarity of a radio reaching precisely the right point on the wave band. She is well aware that it would be convenient to label her (and so dismiss her) as a wife at the top with an easy option on art.

In fact her life has not been plain sailing at all. Born in Poland, she was nine when war broke out and her father, not believing the rumours of disaster,

had rejected the possibility of leaving the country and had simply evacuated to a smaller village. Fortunately this was near the border, so when the Germans did march in, the family was able to escape at night into Rumania.

They made their way to Palestine, where Lily went to school before studying economics and political science at Geneva University. Her interest in art began when she spent six months in Florence studying the Renaissance and adding another language to her repertoire — she now speaks six. It was the first of a series of art courses which she has taken at every opportunity ever since.

Her first marriage took her to Canada, but by the time she was 28 she was widowed and after travelling aimlessly for a while, she came to London, found a job in the economics department of the Israeli Embassy — and at a charity dinner was introduced to Marcus Sieff, then simply a director of Marks and Spencer.

His special responsibility was for the development of the food side of the business.

"It is still his baby to this day," says Lady Sieff. "Every weekend I get a box from the office with new lines of food which we both try for taste and quality and I have to make comments. I wouldn't say he consults me about it a lot. Family comes second and you have to learn to live with it — but business is so interesting I don't really mind."

The interest works both ways. Lord Sieff does not involve himself in his wife's business venture but he is sufficiently fascinated by the mechanics of successful trading, that he telephones her every now and then just to ask whether she has had any orders that day.

She, however, in spite of her desire for the satisfaction to be found in a career of her own, would not hesitate to put family first if a choice had to be made.

"I am women's lib up to a point," she says, "but if you are married and your husband tries to hold you back, you can't really enjoy what you are doing — so to that extent you can't help being subservient to men. I am just very lucky that my husband encourages me and actually wants me to achieve something on my own."

That is not so simple as it might seem for a woman who travels widely with her husband, but she turns that to her advantage by taking the opportunity to seek out international sources of prints. She also gives a good deal of her free time to the charity WIZO, the non-political Women's International Zionist Organization founded 60 years ago by her mother-in-law, Rebecca Sieff, to support deprived women and children in Israel.

Rebecca was a vehement suffragette and campaigner for women, so it does seem curious that her son has not yet seen fit to appoint a woman to the board of his company.

Lady Sieff gives a small sigh of resignation. "We argue about it but he says he will only appoint a woman if she is of the right calibre, not just so that he can be seen to have done the right thing, and so far he hasn't found the qualities he is looking for."

At least there is no doubt about her own achievement. Among her commissions have been the CBI, the National Westminster Bank, the Bankers Trust and many smaller companies. She visits their offices, discusses their preferences and puts together a collection for their approval.

She has a list of 89 artists whose limited edition prints are available through her company L.S. Graphics. Prices range from £25 up and apart from world famous names, include several others worth noting — Chloe Cheesa at about £60, Brendon Neiland and Terry Wilson at about £100, Howard Hodgkin at slightly more.

"It is every collector's dream to back an unknown artist and help to develop them, but I am not in the business of selling investments. I want people to buy art to enjoy and if it turns out to be worth more eventually, so much the better."

The exhibition at the Alpina Gallery, 74 South Audley Street, London, W1 is open from February 2 to 13 from 10 am to 5 pm (Saturdays 10 am to 5 pm) (Saturdays 10 am to 5 pm) telephone 01-529 2280.



Above: Hand-woven waistcoat in amber, gold, coffee and beige wool with blended yarns and a textured "frayed" yoke. From a selection by Nicolette and Linda Hutson, £85 at Living Art, 35 Kenway Road, SW5 from February 6 to 20.

Winners in woven waistcoats

Hand-woven tapestry clothes often look as if they had been designed by the sheep. But a couple of weeks ago two young weavers walked into my office wearing waistcoats that were beautiful and original enough to hang in a gallery.

They were woven with soft 1920s yarns, one interspersed with metal thread and textured with satin and taffeta and the other with velvet and chenille. Both were in black, but the inventors then began to produce out of a bag a technicolour assortment of dreamcoats in ambers and golds, lilacs and pinks, misty greens and blues.

Nicolette and Linda Hutson, who came to this country from America six years ago, are producing the highest quality work in their chosen craft. They dye their own yarns when they can't find exactly the colours they need and one of their specialties is the Scandinavian Rya technique which produces an effect like feathered ruffles.

Next Saturday an exhibition of their work opens at Living Art, 35 Kenway Road, SW5 — a centre which is becoming known for fostering the talents of up-and-coming craft designers. The exhibition will last until February 20 and is open Tuesdays to Fridays 1.30-6.30 pm, Saturdays 10 am to 4 pm. Telephone 01-370 2766.

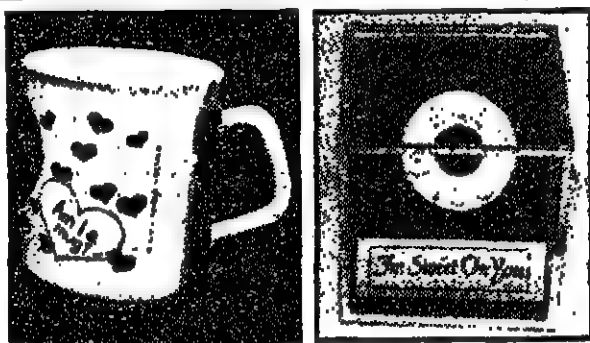
Apart from the waistcoats, Nicolette and Linda make bags and cushions and will design wall hangings to complement individual decors. The waistcoats can be made to order in any colours to go with a favourite skirt or blouse — delivery is about three weeks and prices are from about £85. For more details contact the Hutsons at 7 Holly Bank, 9 Oxford Place, Manchester M14 5SE, telephone 061-248 6863.

Presents to tickle your fancy

Love me, love my jokes seems to be the theme for Valentine's Day this year. The wild, extravagant gesture is out — unless it happens to be somewhat rude — and the mood of the moment is definitely Ken Dodd rather than Julio Iglesias.

There is the present that "costs a mint" — a small perspex box containing a Polo, 99p (55p p&p) — and something to get you in a lather — Lovers Shampoo at £1.60 (35p p&p). For those who want to live dangerously — heart-shaped soap and sponge labelled "Darling Let's go into Hot Water Together" £2.70 (70p p&p) and for incurable drinkers an I Love You mug with a pencil attached so that you can write your own message on it — £1.50 (80p p&p). All at Peter Knight, High Street, Esher, Surrey, and London End, Beaconsfield, Bucks. Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, SW1, has a similar selection, with a slight variation on prices.

For those whose intentions are charitable there is a Secret Love Badge — a heart that forms a question mark — which comes with a message — "I want to reveal the giver's identity if you will only wear it. It costs £1, half of which goes to the British



1 Love You mug with blank heart and pencil to fill in your own message, £1.50 (80p p&p). Polo in perspex comes in a much larger heart decorated box saying "A gift for you that costs a mint", 99p (55p p&p). Both from Peter Knight, Esher and Beaconsfield.

Heart Foundation, and is available post free from Anita Tingey, 27 Hyde Court, St Albans Road, London, NW5.

If you want to go really crackers you can buy a box of six for a Valentine party. In each cracker is a small heart-shaped tin containing a chocolate, candle, lip balm or soap £12.75 a box (£1.55 p&p) from Fortnum and Mason, Piccadilly, W1.

Chocolate is an obvious token of being sweet on you. Selfridges have hand-made initials by Godiva at £1.85 (75p p&p) in milk, plain or white chocolate or you could have LOVE spelled out in a mixture of the three chocolates, packed in a wooden slatted box £5.50 (£2 p&p).

Boots has milk chocolate hearts set into a Valentine card at 75p. There are six designs — four Walt Disney, one romantic scene

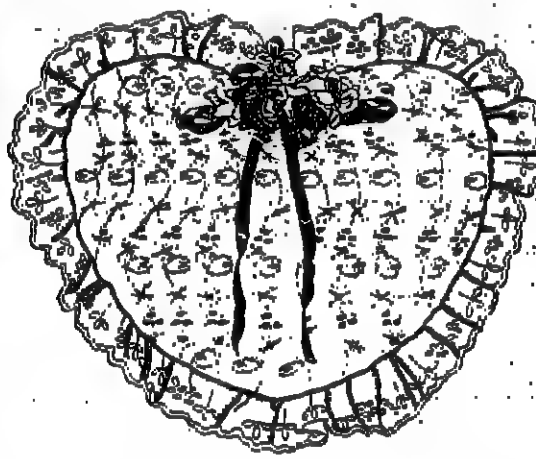
and one pair of loving Pandas — and presumably for those suffering from unrequited love.

Sending it with flowers is easy for those who live within about five miles of Molly Blooms, 787 Fulham Road, SW6. They offer free delivery on baskets of spring flowers and a rose for £3.50, heart arrangements from £2.95, ceramic boxes with a rose £3.50, single sprays of exotic orchids £1.25. If you live further afield delivery charges will depend on the cost of the order. Last date for complicated arrangements, February 11.

At Harrods you can find a copy of a traditional embossed Victorian Valentine card. It will be posted from the store with a special Harrods postmark created for the store by the Post Office and Pilgrim Philatelics, which say "Valentines at Harrods London SW1." To arrive in time for February 14, the last posting date for inland orders is February 10. The price is £1.65 inland orders, £1.85 overseas.

Those who are prepared to wait longer for the flowering of love should look for Growcards — a selection of cards with a bubble pack of flower seeds attached — available in various designs (1 1/4 in x 4 in) from Westminster Cathedral's gift shop at 69p each.

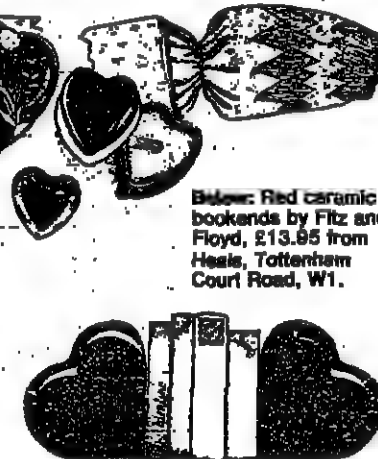
The English Rose version has the legend of the rose's thorns on the back — Cupid being stung on the lip while smelling a newly opened rose and his mother Aphrodite stringing his bow with bees, first taking out their stings and putting them on the stem of the rose as thorns. Conservationists were clearly thin on the ground on Mount Olympus.



Left: Heart cushion in broderie anglaise on satin is completely washable despite its fragile look. In all white, or white on green, red or pink, trimmed with matching satin ribbon, and packed in a presentation box, £7.50 (£1 p&p). By Julia Bailey and Beth Turnbull from Kingsgate Workshops, 79 Kingsgate Road, W11 9BS 2914, or from their stall in Covent Garden on Tuesdays.

Above: Heart filled crackers, £12.75 (£1.55 p&p) for six from Fortnum and Mason, Piccadilly, W1.

Below: Charming little enamel box (1 1/2 in diameter) by Crumlines with hand-painted purple daisies lid, £12.35 (90p p&p) from a selection in French or English at Harrods, Aldi at Tolson House, Windsor, Chichester and Cheltenham.



Below: Drawing by Anne-Marie Kelly of black and white cats with their tails curled into a pink heart, £15 from the Valentine show of work by 20 contemporary artists at The Workshop, 83 Lamb's Conduit Street, WC1.

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Gardening/Roy Hay

Busy lizzies in bed

Writing about hardy annuals last week I mentioned that there are F1 hybrids among them, while there are dozens among the more expensive half hardy flowers from seed.

The F1 hybrids have to be hand pollinated, and so the seed costs more. But being the progeny of two strains, male and female — selected for particular characteristics, they are usually more vigorous: often earlier flowering or larger flowered. In some cases, as with some marigolds (tagetes) the hybrids are sterile — they do not set seeds and so the plants continue to flower abundantly until the autumn frosts.

Among the most popular marigold hybrids are "Nell Gwynn", single, golden-yellow, "Seven Star Red", double, mahogany red, "Solar Gold" and "Solar Orange", double.

The busy lizzies — varieties ofimpatiens — are great favourites as pot plants with secretaries as they do not mind being left unwatered

for a day or so. But many people do not realize what splendid plants they are for window boxes, tubs, hanging baskets or for near the front of beds and borders.

There are several F1 hybrid mixtures, I particularly like the "Zig-Zag" mixture, which has orange, scarlet, pink, rose or salmon flowers splashed with a white star. These busy lizzies do well in sun or shade.

In recent years much work has been done with geraniums (zonal pelargoniums) and there are now almost two dozen F1 varieties. They are very floriferous and are easily raised from seed sown in heat at this time of year to flower within about four months.

They do need a temperature of about 70°F to germinate. Then they may be grown at about 60-65°F until they are planted out at the end of May or early June. Modern varieties of Begonia semperflorens sown now in heat, as with geraniums, will flower all summer. If desired, the plants may be lifted

in the autumn, potted, trimmed back and brought indoors to flower on and off in winter and spring.

For those who do not have the facilities to provide these temperatures, Dobbies offer seedlings of these begonias ready for pricking out, also petunias, geraniums, impatiens, polyanthus and Solvia "Blaze of Fire". Unwins also offer a range of seedlings for pricking out and young plants for potting and growing on.

An interesting F1 hybrid is the monkey flower Mimulus "Red Velvet". It has a compact, more uniform branching habit than the old strains and gives a generous display of its large wide-open tubular yellow flowers heavily blotched and speckled with maroon. It likes a moist soil. These monkey flowers are unusual and always attract a lot of interest.

I have spent a lot of time in the past trying to hybridize the perennial M. cardinalis, which grows to about two to three feet and bears small scarlet flowers, but without success. Mimulus seems to be a very moral genus, but I still dream of a plant two or three feet high covered with large yellow and maroon flowers.

Recently I wrote about Algaenol, the new chemical for controlling green algae on the soil of pot plants, on paths, sheds and other places. I also said it was excellent for keeping the overlaps of greenhouse glass from becoming clogged up with algae, and several readers

have asked how you clean it out from under the glass.

This is quite simple. You can almost always insert a thin plastic label between the panes and dislodge the dirt, then spray the glass with the Algaenol solution so that it runs down between the panes. This should keep the overlap clear for quite a long time.

Another reader wrote to say that while I often refer to the quite considerable number of flowers that bloom in winter, I seem to have overlooked several rhododendrons such as the mauve R. praecox — flowers in February and March. There are also the rose pink, and "Venustum", pink shading to white; these will flower from January to March and in a mild season may open some flowers in December. These rhododendrons are available from Slocock Nurseries, Garden Centre, Knaphill, Woking, Surrey.

During the cold spell I was surprised that several of our friends did not know about the trick of keeping the water in a small pool from freezing solid. This is to make a hole in the ice before it becomes too thick by standing a hot kettle on it, and then to siphon or bale out enough water to leave a gap of an inch or so between the surface of the water and the ice. Place one or two canes over the hole and lay a sack over them and the water will not freeze again so long as there is this insulating layer of air between it and the ice.

The Times Cook/Shona Crawford Poole

The many-layered art

There are, if my arithmetic is right, 730 layers in proper puff pastry. And putting them there is a tricky business.

For many purposes a packet of frozen puff from the supermarket does very well, and the real stuff is a delicious but time-consuming luxury. That said, though, there are other recipes in which the buttery flavour and extra lightness of home-made puff pastry make all the difference.

"Cool it" is the answer to many of the problems proper puff making poses. The lengthy instructions should help beginners to acquire the knack of working it deftly, but they leave no space for more recipes. So ideas for using puff pastry will follow next week.

Quite apart from all the elegant and inexpensive dishes this one accomplishment makes possible, it is very pleasing to work such a miraculous transformation on an unpromising lump of dough.

Puff pastry
Makes 1.25kg (2 1/2 lb)
500g (1lb 2oz) plain flour
2 teaspoons salt
1 tablespoon lemon juice
250 to 275ml (8 to 9 fl oz) iced water
500g (1lb 2oz) unsalted butter

Sift the flour and salt on to a clean surface (preferably a marble slab and as cold as

possible) and make a well in the centre of the heap. Combine the lemon juice and iced water and pour about one third of this liquid into the well. Using one hand to beat the mixture, and the other to support the walls of flour, draw in flour until the centre has the consistency of a cream sauce. Add more water and continue mixing until you have a dough which can be formed into a ball.

Overworking the dough develops the gluten in the flour and makes the dough too elastic and difficult to roll later. So work it as little as possible, and form it into a ball. Wrap the dough in greaseproof paper and damp cloth or foil to prevent it drying out, and chill it for at least 30 minutes.

Prepare the butter by working it with a knife or spatula into a block which measures about 15 by 10cm (6 by 4 inches). Put it between two sheets of greaseproof paper, for easier handling, and chill it.

Ideally, the butter and dough should have roughly the same consistency when you begin to roll them together. As this makes the following stages easier, it is worth a little patience at this stage to achieve it.

Lightly flour the work surface and roll the dough, working from the centre outwards, to a rectangle large enough to wrap the butter block with just a little overlap. Place the butter in

the middle of the dough with the short sides facing you and the longer sides to right and left. Fold the long sides to the centre and press the join lightly with the rolling pin, then fold in the top and bottom sections and press lightly again just to stick the envelope.

Starting with the pin in the middle of the envelope, roll it out, working towards the corners from your body only to make a rectangle about 20 by 40cm (8 by 16 inches). The short sides should still face you. Use a ruler or long knife to nudge the edges straight and square up the corners.

Mentally divide the rectangle into thirds. Take the third nearest to you and fold it over the middle third, then bring the top third down over the other two. Square up the package and lightly tap the edges with the pin. Press one shallow dent in the top with your knuckle to remind you that it has had one fold, or turn, wrap as before with greaseproof and a cloth or foil and chill for at least 30 minutes.

Unwrap the pastry and have a good look at it. Three sides, two short and one long, have folds in them (think of the pages of a book), and one long side has no folds (think of the spine of a book). Put the pastry on a lightly floured surface with the spine of the "book" on your left and the turn-marking dent upmost. Roll it out again using the same method

and to the same size as before. Fold it in three again, keeping the edges and corners square, and make two turn marks. Wrap and chill it for another 30 minutes.

You will see that if after every rolling and folding you reposition the pastry with the spine of the "book" on your left you have automatically turned the pastry through 90°. And by counting the turn mark dents you have kept a check on the number of turns made.

Six turns in all are required, making 730 layers in the pastry — not quite a mille-feuille in one hit. The third and fourth turns should be possible without chilling the dough between them, likewise the fifth and last. But if the dough becomes too warm and soft, pop it back in the fridge to stiffen up. If the worst happens and the butter starts to leak through the dough, dust the affected area with a little flour and chill well before carrying on. Take heart, you probably have 700 or more layers left.

After the sixth and last turn, mark and wrap the pastry as before and chill well before using it. It will keep in the fridge for several days, or it can be frozen with no ill effects.

Roll the pastry thinly and chill it again before glazing with beaten egg and baking until golden in a preheated hot oven (230°C/400°F, gas mark 6). But more of that next week.

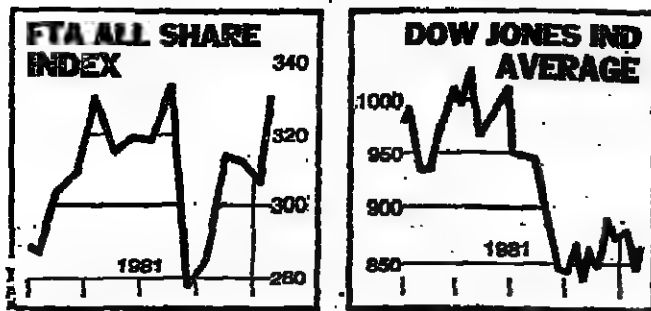
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BUSINESS NEWS

US boosts trading



Stock markets in London and New York traded strongly, encouraged by evidence of a recovery in the United States economy. Both markets reported heavy volumes. The London stock market closed up 6.0 on the FT-30 index at 579.8 and up 3.65 on the average at 330.93. The FT 30 was the highest since last May. The Dow Jones was up 2 points at mid-session, held back only by caution ahead of the latest money supply figures.

\$75m cocoa loan agreed

Producers and consumers in the International Cocoa Organization agreed in London yesterday to allow the buffer stock manager to negotiate a loan of \$75m from a group of Brazilian banks. The way for the loan was cleared by acceptance of an increase of one to two per cent per lb of cocoa in the levy of members.

EEC housing credit move

The EEC Commission plans to bring forward a draft directive to liberalize housing credit that could allow borrowers to shop around from country to country for a mortgage. Mr Christopher Tugendhat, Commissioner for Financial Affairs, said the move would encourage mobility of labour as people could take their loans with them when moving from one EEC country to another.

Kuwait keen on Gulf refinery

Kuwait is showing increasing interest in buying at least part of Gulf Oil's European refining interests. A senior Kuwaiti official is reported to have visited Gulf's refinery at Milford Haven, South Wales, this week. Kuwait already has a stake in development of the British sector of the North Sea.

Gulf Oil, one of the biggest American oil companies, has refineries in the Netherlands, Denmark, Switzerland, and Italy, as well as Wales.

Bowater bid

Bowater could become Britain's third largest double-glazing manufacturer, if negotiations to buy the Zenith Group of Norwich are successful. Zenith has recently moved into PVC replacement windows and doors, and Bowater is its main supplier.

Chrysler move

Chrysler seems to have singled out General Dynamics as the most attractive bidder for its tank-building subsidiary. About half the Chrysler directors were briefed on the sale and a full board meeting is planned next Thursday.

MARKET SUMMARY

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 579.8 up 6.0
FT 100 85 up 0.50
FT All-share 330.93 up 4.65
Bargains 20,580

Euphoria at the previous night's rally on Wall Street pushed the FT index to its highest point since last May, opening up 10.4 at 574.2 but closing at 579.8, up 6.0 after profit taking.

Glits extended the previous day's gains in the absence of a new short tap and in anticipation of good news in United States money supply figures. Long dates ended up 2 1/2 with shorts 2 3/8 better than the previous night's close. There was a limited amount of dealing in the new index linked issue which was marked up 2 1/2.

Leading equities improved in line with the market, with Becthams up 7p at 243p, Thom EMI advancing 13p to 485p and GKN 3p better at 187p.

There was also switching from Unilever, up 5p to 650p, and Shell, 2p ahead at 380p, into their heavyweight Dutch parents, Unilever NV and Royal Dutch. A line of 500,000 Shell Transport shares went through the market at 382p.

Babcock continued to be bought in substantial quantities by the previous day's buyer and the shares closed 5p ahead at 101p as the prospect of a bid grew.

Wm. Low, Supermarket and freezer centre operator was up 2p at 194p on rumours that Kwik Fit was poised to make a bid. The shares have risen from 150p in the past year and a line of 150,000 shares were bought on Thursday in what is normally a very limited market.

William Decker was also the subject of bid talk as the overseas trading and motor group's share price put on 6p to 25p.

There were lines of BTR and C. Heath in the market. Another stock attracting interest was British & Commonwealth Shipping, the group controlled by the Cayzer family whose interests extend well beyond Union Castle and Clan Line Steamers.

The group also controls Air UK, and has substantial interests in property and office equipment, hotels and insurance. About half the group is reckoned to be substantially above the share price, which rose 6p to 381p.

Building and engineering remain popular sectors ahead of the March Budget and an improvement in the economy. The maintained interim dividend at John Brown came as a welcome relief after the difficulties over last year's rights issue, while the chairman's moderately optimistic comments on the full year boosted the shares 4p to 66p.

Breweries remain firm in the hope that drinkers will escape lightly in the Budget. Bass improved 5p to 215p after the previous day's bearish comments from the chairman.

On the takeover front Associated Communications Corporation slipped 4p to 69p while the shares closed 5p ahead at 101p as the prospect of a bid grew.

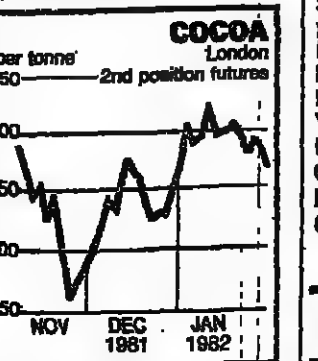
On the takeover front Associated Communications Corporation slipped 4p to 69p while the shares closed 5p ahead at 101p as the prospect of a bid grew.

Equity turnover on January 28 was £140.232m (15,326 bargains).

Gareth David

COMMODITIES

● Reports in the middle of the afternoon that the International Cocoa Organization had given the buffer stock manager permission to negotiate a \$75m loan failed to rally the market. There was disappointment that the amount was no bigger, and so March cocoa was marked down by 22s a tonne to £21,180.50. May fell £21 to £21,160.50 a tonne. The buckwheat market emerged despite near May at one stage touching £1,194 a tonne.



● Tin slipped further from the record levels reached in the middle of the week. Market sources said that London Metal Exchange tin stocks had risen from 16,385 tonnes at the end of last week to nearer 18,000 tonnes. Standard tin closed at £8,640 a tonne, down 21s while three months was £7,970 compared with £8,027.50. Mr Philip Smith, chairman of the LME board, said that deliveries on February 25 and 26 by those who went short last year would be crucial to the orderly working of the market.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,417.42 up 19.12
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,918.82 up 14.97

CURRENCIES

● The dollar recovered from early weakness in moderate trading. Sterling was generally firm, touching \$1.89.

LONDON CLOSE
STERLING £1.8810 up 80 pips
Index 91.7 up 0.1
DM 4.3575
Fr.F 11.0900
Yen 429.50
DOLLAR INDEX 109.8 down 0.4 pips
DM 2,314.7 down 123 pips
GOLD \$387.00 up \$3.25

MONEY MARKETS

● Period rates were marginally easier. The Bank gave help of £435m in response to a forecast shortage of £450m, dropping its Band 3 rate to 13 1/4%.

Domestic Rates:
Base rates 14%
3-mth interbank 14 1/4-14 1/2%

Euro-Currency Rates:
3 month dollar 14 1/4-14 1/2%
3 month DM 10 1/4-10 1/2%
3 month Fr.F 15 1/2-15 1/4%

Engineering export orders up by 40pc

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Britain's engineering companies are achieving a big breakthrough in overseas markets, with new export orders having risen by more than 40 per cent towards the end of last year. Export orders on hand are now a fifth higher than a year ago. But while the figures, compiled by the Government, indicate a resurgence in world trade in engineering products, it is clear that the United Kingdom industry is relying on overseas business for survival.

The home market for the engineering industries, according to the Department of Trade and Industry, is showing "a more pedestrian performance" new orders were down seven per cent and sales up by only three per cent in August-October last year compared with the previous three months.

Machine tools represent a particular black spot, with the industry coping with stagnant demand in almost all markets. In the three months to October, export new orders fell by 15 per cent and sales by 12 per cent.

Government ministers, however, remain optimistic about the future of the engineering sector, which is a sign of better times ahead. Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, said the export figures suggested there was "a clear opportunity for United Kingdom salesmen to build on last year's unexpectedly good export performance with the help of recent starting improvements in productivity, an easing of the exchange rate and the expected revival of international trade."

He added: "And of course, there should not only be room for growth abroad but in regaining some of the domestic market share lost to the invades of overseas competitors in recent years." Such sentiments, however, are not reflected in the Budget submissions made in recent weeks by leading engineering organizations. Most call for renewed help on the domestic front to boost new investment and assist small companies.

The latest, published yesterday by the Process Plant Association, urges Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to set aside much more money for public sector capital spending in the coming year.

The association, which represents a sector with a 24,000-man turnover, a third of which is exported and employs 80,000 people, says the industry's international competitiveness has

increased considerably but the present British market is "a very slender home base."

Mr Harry Hornsby, the association's director general, said that the Government's attack on public expenditure was supported but spending had continued to grow at the expense of capital investment.

Another submission, from the Engineering Industries Association, stresses that last year it lost 749 member firms with a total labour force of 50,000. A system of investment grants is needed, it says, particularly for small and medium companies, to help to replace old, inefficient and often obsolete plant and machinery.

Some present equipment is in use is upwards of 40 years old, competing against subsidized new technology equipment from Japan and other countries.

The official figures for the engineering industry show that taking seasonal factors into consideration, total sales rose by only 2.5 per cent in the three months to October, with new orders up by eight per cent and orders on hand rising by five per cent. A number of big overseas contracts won by the heavy engineering sector largely were responsible for the upturn in the export figures.

Ronson to appeal ruling on ACC

By Philip Robinson and Paul Maudmont

Mr Gerald Ronson confirmed last night that his Heron Corporation will go to the Appeal Court on Monday and attempt to overturn a High Court ruling that has effectively shut him out of the race to own Associated Communications Corporation, Lord Grade's former empire.

But Mr Robert Holmes a Court, the Australian financier, who is bidding £36m for the asset-rich communications and property group, still cannot seal a victory. Although he has been promised enough shares of ACC directors to give him control, Mr Holmes a Court must now call a special shareholders' meeting to authorize the scheme to freeze ACC's voting shares in its 51 per cent owned subsidiary, Central Independent Television. The High Court has ruled the present scheme is not valid.

In the High Court yesterday, ACC undertook not to transfer any shares until Monday. But this was given on the understanding that Mr Holmes a Court could still distribute his formal offer document for ACC. It is expected that this will go out with the notice convening the special shareholders' meeting next week.

John Brown payout held

By Peter Wainwright

John Brown, the international engineering group, is to maintain its interim dividend at 2 1/2p.

This should mollify City critics of Mr John Mayhew-Sanders, chairman. He forecast yesterday that pretax profits for the year to next March "should not, now prove to be too far short of the £14.2m achieved in 1981."

The share price, which had fallen to a low of 53p, recovered to 66p against 1982 high of 101p and a low of 53p.

Mitsubishi denies car quota dodge

By Bill Johnston

Mitsubishi, the Japanese car company, has denied reports that it is planning to import into Britain completed vehicles manufactured in Australia to avoid the voluntary restraints on Japanese cars.

According to Mitsubishi in the United Kingdom, its entire consignment is imported direct from Japan and not via any other country.

A report in the Economist this week says that Mitsubishi has privately told the Australian Government that it will export cars manufactured in Australia to Britain.

There appears to be no precedent for "judging whether these imports would be classified as Australian or Japanese. However, both the Department of Trade and the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders are confident that unless there was a substantial Australian content in the cars, they would be classified as Japanese."

Mitsubishi bought Chrysler's manufacturing plant in Australia in April 1980 for A\$80m. Since then it has reduced the workforce from 6,700 to about 4,000.

The company has also more than halved the time taken to manufacture an average car. Chrysler of Australia took 60 hours to make a car while the Mitsubishi average is nearer 23 hours.

The reports suggest that the Japanese company would consider exporting cars to Britain to qualify for export credits. The export credit scheme due to start in Australia in the spring allows a car manufacturer to import components duty free assuming that the same value of parts are exported.

It was only in November of last year that the Japanese motor industry agreed to another year of voluntary restraint on exports to Britain.



Sir Geoffrey Howe: urged to siphon off benefits to ease competition

Licensed trade calls for home brew tax

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

Home brewing, which has increased by a third in the past year while commercial beer sales have plunged, is being suggested as a target for taxation in the Budget.

The growth of home brewing has prompted a meeting next week between the National Association of Licensed House Managers, the National Union of Licensed Victuallers, which represents public house tenants, and the National Council on Alcoholism, to press demands for excise duty on home-made liquor.

Although these organizations are concerned about how home wine making escaping excise duty, the main thrust of their attack is the home brew kits for beer. "We are not kill-joys and do not want to stop those who might make, say, fruit wine as a hobby, but the effect of unfair competition from what is now a sizable home-brew industry is a different matter," Mr Harry Shindler, national secretary of the managers' association, said.

The home-brew market amounts to at least 600,000 bulk barrels a year, according to Mr Shindler, the equivalent of nearly 173 million pints, or rather more than 1.5 per cent of commercial beer produced annually.

But this, almost certainly underestimates the size of this market which first took off when Customs and Excise restrictions on home brewing

and winemaking were dropped in 1963.

By 1977 the home-brew market was worth £10m a year and home-brew kits made beer-making easier through the introduction of a ready-made malt and hops mix.

Since then the market has grown by just over 70 per cent to an estimated £17m last year. The range of equipment needed to make beer adds another £4m to the value of the home-brew market.

Home-brewed beer can be produced for only 7p a pint or less, so a conservative estimate would be that at least 272 million pints were made last year, saving taxes of as much as 20 per cent over beer bought in bottles.

Home-brewed beer should ideally be left to mature in bottle for about three months before drinking.

Backitt & Colman's Tom Caxton beer kits, which opened up the kit market in the early 1970s, were followed by a spate of others, with Boots mounting the biggest threat because of its combined strength as manufacturer and retailer.

The growth in beer making is now outpacing that of home produced wine which increased by a quarter last year to an annual sales value of £15m. The value of wine making equipment market adds another £9m in annual sales.

EEC fails to win Japan import curbs

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Jan 29

High level talks on reducing Japan's trade surplus with members of the EEC ended in Tokyo today without any apparent progress.

The Community failed to extract any precise assurances from Japan that it would limit exports of "sensitive" products such as cars, colour television tubes and numerically controlled machine tools, to the member states of the Community.

EEC negotiators were still stressing that Japan should make greater efforts to open its market.

Sir Roy Dennis, the

European Commission's director-general for external affairs, said that Japanese plans to cut tariffs and eliminate 57 non-tariff barriers represented a step in the right direction. But he added there was still a long way to go.

He said the EEC deficit of between \$13,000m and \$14,000m in its trade with Japan was a structural phenomenon. Although the EEC was not claiming that the rise in the number of unemployed in the Community to 10 million was a direct consequence of

Wall St spurs London market

By Michael Clark

Thursday's overnight surge on Wall Street, fuelled by further evidence of a recovery in the United States economy, spilled over into the London stock market yesterday. The FT Index closed 6.0 higher at 579.8, having opened 10.4 up.

Government securities also recorded gains of 2 1/2% partly reflecting the renewed strength of the American bond market and hopes that worldwide interest rates had finally peaked.

Dealers in London expected to make further headway on the back of Wall Street's new found confidence.

At this level the FT Index stands at its highest point since May 1981 when it stood at 591.9 — just 5.3 short of its all time high. Meanwhile, United States dealers are talking of the Dow Jones Industrial average, up 21.6 at 864.25 on Thursday, breaching the 900 barrier within the next few weeks after a 0.6 rise in the December economic indicators.

President Reagan's State of the Union speech has also done much to encourage the change of heart, although many American analysts remain cautious.

Mr Michael Horsburgh, of Bear Stearns & Co, believes that while the equity market has been heavily oversold in recent weeks and some reaction was inevitable, further economic setbacks were on cards.

Further increases in United States prime rates were possible as the Government wrestled to control public expenditure. As a result both equities and bonds would continue to fluctuate about terms as the economy continued to reach the bottom of the trough.

Mr Ernie Moskowitz, of Dean Witter Reynolds, held a similar view. He said the government's failure to reduce public spending would see prime rates again rise to as much as 20 per cent during the third quarter of the financial year. But a possible change in government strategy during the final quarter might introduce the first signs of a real recovery.

Last night Wall Street was in a nervous mood, awaiting the latest money supply figures.

□ In the London money markets period rates were slightly easier where changed. At the weekly tender the Treasury bill rate was barely changed at 13.51 per cent, but the market was mildly encouraged by the fact that the Bank of England allowed its Band 3 dealing rate to slip from 13% to 13 1/4% per cent in its open market operations.

Renault favourite for De Lorean deal

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Renault of France is believed to be a potential purchaser of the De Lorean Motor Company, the troubled Belfast sports car operation which was this week refused further British government financial aid.

Mr John De Lorean, the company's founder said in New York yesterday that he was discussing the sale with "a prestige foreign manufacturer" after the failure of initial talks with an unnamed United States car maker.

General Motors and Ford have been suggested as possible buyers, but Renault, which already supplies engines for the stainless steel, gull-winged car, is emerging as the favourite.

Mr De Lorean was speaking after his abortive attempts this week to persuade Mr James Prior, the Ulster Secretary, to agree to further government guarantees covering an additional £36m of loans. As a result, Belfast managers told the 2,600 workers on Thursday that 1,100 would be made redundant.

Union officials immediately began talks with the local management over compensation terms and will address a meeting of the workforce today.

Meanwhile, Mr John Hume, leader of Ulster's Social Democratic and



Happier, halcyon days at De Lorean

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Cheap loans linked to house price index



A new index-linked home loan scheme offering homebuyers the chance to borrow at an interest rate of just 10 per cent was launched this week by the Building Trust.

The advantage of the scheme is that monthly repayments with an index-linked mortgage are considerably lower than with a conventional building society loan. This means that first-time buyers, who usually need to borrow a high proportion of the purchase price of their property, can borrow up to four times their before-tax salary.

On a 25-year mortgage of £25,000, the conventional building society borrower would make monthly repayments of £222.50 compared with only £229.75 with a Building Trust index-linked loan. The actual interest rate charged by the Building Trust is two-thirds of the Building Society's rate. The recommended rate of 15 per cent. Tax relief is obtainable on the repayments in the usual way.

Nothing is for nothing, however, and the drawback is that half the original loan is linked to changes in the house price index. This means, in effect, when the house is sold, the borrower is giving away 50 per cent of the capital gain on that part of the house financed by the loan.

This does not sound too onerous until you realise that some houses increase in value more slowly than the average. And if your house is one of these, your loan is increasing in value faster than your house.

For example, house prices notoriously vary widely from

region to region. You could easily see a rise in the index of average house prices of say, 5 per cent, but an individual might well experience a fall in the value of his particular property of 10 per cent — as some people know to their cost this year.

Translating this into an index-linked loan means that a £20,000 loan on a £25,000 house bought a year ago would have grown to £20,500 but the value of the house would have fallen to £22,500.

If the same thing occurs during 1983, the homeowner will owe more on his index-linked loan than the house is worth. Even if this does not happen, buying the second house is that much more difficult because there is less profit from the sale of the first, and therefore less ability to gear up.

All this assumes that you move house and repay the index-linked portion of the loan out of your profits. If you simply repay the loan over the original 25-year term, you could find yourself reaching retirement age with the repayments on the original loan completed, but with the index-linked portion still outstanding.

You are not obliged to repay this but it will continue to rise in line with increases in the house price index.

However, the new index-linked loan scheme comes into its own for elderly homeowners having difficulty making ends meet on their current income.

The usual means of providing extra income is to enter into what is known as a "home annuity" scheme.

The homeowner raises a loan against the security of

the property on which interest only is payable. The loan is used to buy an annuity (an income for life) from a life company. Part of the income from the annuity is used to pay the interest on the loan and the balance provides extra cash to spend. The loan is repaid on death when the property is sold.

But with today's high interest rates, the amount left as extra income is often small.

A similar scheme using a Building Trust index-linked loan is much more beneficial since the interest rate charged on the loan is only 10 per cent. This leaves a much higher proportion of the annuity payments as cash income.

The Building Trust scheme is not simple — but it could be useful to some homeowners. Any one thinking of buying a house with an index-linked loan, or setting up an index-linked home annuity scheme should consult their accountant and/or solicitor before signing.

Further details from: The Building Trust, Stationers Hall Court, 30/32 Ludgate Hill, EC4M 7ND. Tel: 236 0860.

Monthly child benefits

Mothers receiving child benefit are being asked by the Department of Health and Social Security whether they want their benefit to be paid weekly or monthly.

At present child benefit — worth £5.25 for each child — is paid weekly by way of a book of orders which can be cashed at the Post Office. But the Government wants to switch as far as possible to monthly payments as a way of saving money in the administration of the scheme.

Last year it was decided that mothers who were already getting child benefit and who made their payments have become used to collecting their benefit each week would be given a choice of weekly or monthly payments. But those who claim child benefit in 1982 for the first time are not being given any choice. They will receive the payment monthly.

In practice, what will happen is that those mothers who do decide to change to monthly payments will be allowed a six-month trial. If they find they are not able to manage during this time they will be able to change back to weekly payment.

However, the weekly payment system is to continue for a number of special groups, unless they particularly opt for the four-weekly plan. These are people receiving supplementary benefit, family income supplement or who are single parents. Any person who goes on to four-week payments and later falls into one of these groups will be able to switch to weekly payments.

Another change is in prospect as well. Mothers opting for the less frequent payments will be asked whether they wish the child benefit to be paid direct into their bank or building society account or through the traditional book of orders.

This will be the first time the DHSS has paid benefits into bank accounts and it is something it would like to see catching on as a way of cutting costs further. Another group who will shortly have this option are those receiving retirement pension. Later this year those pensioners who wish to will be able to elect change from their traditional weekly payments to payments every four weeks.

Ian McDonald

FRAMLINGTON

FOUR FUNDS FOR 1982

1981 was a good year for Framlington. The average rise in the offer price of our funds over the 12 months to December 1 was the best of any of the larger unit trust groups. This performance earned us the coveted title of Observer Unit Trust Managers of the Year.

In this advertisement we choose four funds we think may interest investors for 1982. They include a capital growth fund, a speculative fund, an income and growth fund, and an income fund. In our opinion this is a good time to invest in any of the four.

CAPITAL GROWTH

International Growth Fund invests single-mindedly for capital growth on a world-wide basis. At present 62% is in the U.S., 17% in Japan and the Far East and 20% in the U.K. Since the fund started in October 1976 the price of units has risen 350% compared with 166% for the FT All-Share Index. Over the five years to January 1 this was the second best performer of the 33 international funds, turning £1,000 into £3,922 (Money Management figures). It was 4th out of 36 over 3 years, 2nd out of 42 over 2 years and 5th out of 46 over one year.

For unitholders seeking long-term capital growth, this is the ideal fund. On January 26 the offer price was 75.0p (Accumulation units, 81.4p). The estimated gross yield was 1.19%. Distributions on income units are on June 15 and December 15.

SPECULATIVE

American Turnaround Fund invests for capital growth in U.S. recovery situations. These occur when a company falls on hard times but is given a new lease of life.

Since American Turnaround Fund was started in October 1979 the price of units has risen 67%, compared with 28% for the All-Share Index and 31% for the equivalent US Index, the S&P Comp, adjusted for currency changes. Over the year to January 1 the price of units rose 22.7%. Investors should recognise that although turnaround funds can be very rewarding, they can also be highly volatile.

On January 26 the offer price was 83.4p. The estimated gross yield was 1.82%. The annual distribution is on August 15.

INCOME AND GROWTH

Capital Trust aims to combine above-average capital growth with an average income. This is the oldest Framlington fund, started in 1969. It specialises in smaller British growth companies and has a very good long-term record.

Since the fund started the price of units has risen 322% compared with 77% for the FT All-Share Index. Over the five years to January 1 this was the best performer of the 85 general trusts on the market.

On January 26 the offer price was 70.4p (Accumulation Units 75.8p). The estimated gross yield was 4.85%. Income distributions are on May 15 and November 15.

INCOME

Income Trust aims for an above average and growing income, together with capital growth. Since the trust started in December 1971 the net income per unit has risen 235%. The original investors are now receiving a gross yield of over 20%.

Capital growth has also been excellent: since launch the price of units has risen 192%, compared with 66% for the All-Share Index.

Out of 75 income trusts available, Framlington Income Trust had the best combined income and capital growth performance over the 5 years to January 1.

The fund should do particularly well when the British economy recovers. On January 26 the offer price was 48.6p. The estimated gross yield was 6.99%. Distributions are on January 15 and July 15.

VALUE FOR MONEY

The annual charge on Framlington funds is still only 1.2% (+VAT). The average spread between bid & offer prices (this includes stamp duty of 2% and the initial charge of 5%) is deliberately kept narrow: on January 26 it was 6.11% of the offer price. When you cash in Framlington units the cheque is normally sent on the day we receive your renounced certificate. Or you can switch into another fund at a discount.

TAX ADVANTAGES

Authorised unit trusts are exempt from capital gains tax. This means they can take profits in individual shares and switch from market to market without penalty. The individual can realise gains of up to £3,000 p.a. without paying gains tax.

BUYING UNITS

By post. Send your cheque with the application form. Your units will be allocated at the price ruling when we receive the order. The number issued is rounded up to the next whole unit.

By telephone. 01-628 5181, every day, the Stock Exchange is open. Through a professional adviser. Units can be bought through stockbrokers, banks, solicitors, accountants or insurance brokers.

CAUTION

The price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Applications are acknowledged. Your certificate will be sent by the registrar, Lloyds Bank Limited, within 42 days. The minimum holding is normally 600 units. Commission of 1.25% (+VAT) is paid to agents.

The funds are constituted by Trust Deed and authorised by the Department of Trade. The Trustees are Lloyds Bank Limited.

The managers are Framlington Unit Management Limited, 64 London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ. Telephone: 01-628 5181. Registered in England No 895241. Member of The Unit Trust Association.

SAVINGS PLAN

This is a way of investing by monthly direct debit. The minimum is £10 a month. For £100 a month or more we give a bonus of 1% extra units.

Units are bought at the offer price ruling on 5th of each month. Net income is automatically reinvested for you, using accumulation units where possible.

Certificates are not issued, but every six months you are sent a statement of your account and a report on your fund.

You can cash in your plan at any time, receiving the full bid value of the accumulated units. There are no 'surrender penalties'. Nor is the plan subject to capital gains tax. You yourself would be liable only if your total capital gains exceeded £3,000 in the year you cashed in your plan, whose proceeds will depend on unit values at the time.

To start your plan, fill in the application and send it to us with your cheque. We shall send you a direct debit mandate for you to sign and return to us in the reply-paid envelope we provide.

You may chip in extra at the start with a cheque for more than your monthly contribution. Remember that plans of £100 a month or more get a 1% bonus.

To: Framlington Unit Management Limited, 64 London Wall, London EC2M 5NQ
I wish to invest the sum of £ (minimum for this offer £500). I enclose my cheque payable to Framlington Unit Management Limited. I am over 18. For accumulation units in which income is reinvested (not available with Income & Extra Income Trusts), tick here. ☐

I wish to start a Monthly Savings Plan for £ per month (minimum £10). I enclose my cheque for £ for my first contribution (this can be a larger amount than your monthly payment). I am over 18.

Fund: FRAMLINGTON
Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss) _____
Full first name(s) _____
Address _____
Signature(s) _____ Date _____

(Joint applicants should all sign and give details separately.)

HOME ANNUITY SCHEME

Example: Woman aged 75 — House Valued £50,000 — Loan £25,000	
Interest on £25,000 loan from Building Trust at 10 per cent per annum	2,500
Less: tax relief at 30 per cent	750
Net interest payments per annum	£1,750
Income from annuity purchased with £25,000 loan — payable monthly in arrears	£,223
Net payment after deduction of basic rate tax	4,348
Less: net interest payments on loan	1,750
Extra spendable income after tax relief	£2,598

Not so provincial...

Provincial Insurance has taken the bold step of moving into the unit trust business on a large scale. Four unit trusts are being added to the existing range of three.

One of the privately-owned medium-sized insurance groups, Provincial, has a longer history of equity investment than almost any company in the industry. Lord Keynes was on their board as investment director, and an advocate of equity investment, started to buy shares in the 1930s.

The existing three unit trusts are Prolific International, Prolific High Income, their best performer last year showing a return of nearly 19 per cent and there

is also a gilt fund. The new funds are Prolific Technology, Prolific North American, Prolific Far Eastern and Prolific Special Situations.

In tandem with this announcement the life side of Provincial has also set up six internal funds. These are linked directly to the new unit trusts. Initially this facility will be available for single premium business only. Later it will be extended to include regular premium investors.

The attraction of forming unit trusts has been greatly enhanced by the 1980 Finance Act which changed the law granting tax concessions to unit trusts.

Your money market best buys

Banks: Current accounts — no interest paid. Deposit accounts — 12 per cent Midland, 14.25 per cent Natwest 11% per cent, seven days notice required for withdrawals. For sums of £10,000 or more rate fixed for the term. Fixed-term deposits — 14.25 per cent 3 and 6 months, 13% per cent 12 months. Rates quoted by Barclays. Other banks may differ.

Local authority yearling bonds: 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 14% per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Local authority town hall bonds: Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments, interest quoted gross (basic rate tax deducted at source reclaimable by non-taxpayers). Best offers: 1 year, Cleveland 14 per cent; 2 years, Southend 14 per cent; 3 years, Barnsley 14 per cent; 4 years, Knowsley 14 per cent; 5-10 years West Derby 15 per cent. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance Loans Bureau (01-628 7855, after 3 pm). See also on Prestel no 28808.

Finance for industry: Fixed-term, fixed-rate investments of between 3 and 10 years, interest paid half-yearly without deduction of tax: 3-4 years, 13% per cent; 5-6 years, 13% per cent; 7 years, 13% per cent; 8-9 years, 14 per cent; 10 years, 14 per cent. Further information from FEI 91 Waterloo Road London SE1 (01-528 7822).

Finance house deposits (UDT): Fixed-term, fixed-rate deposits, interest paid without deductions of tax. For sums of between £5,000 and £50,000: 6 months, 14 per cent; 1 year, 14% per cent; 2 years, 14% per cent.

National Savings certificates — 23rd issue: Returns totally free of all taxes, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five year term of 10.5 per cent, maximum investment £5,000.

Building societies: Ordinary share accounts — 9.75 per cent. Term shares — 1 to 5 years, between 0.5 per cent and 2 per cent over the BSA recommended ordinary share rate depending on the term. Regular savings schemes — 1.25 per cent over BSA recommended ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly

offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Deposit accounts — all accounts paid net of basic rate tax, not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Local authority yearling bonds: 12-month fixed rate investments, interest 14% per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

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Six years High Performance Record.

Arbuthnot Eastern & International Fund

The record in 1981*

The Fund was No. 2, out of all 436 Unit Trusts* £1,000 invested on 1st January 1981 was valued at £1,462 on 1st January 1982. Whilst past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future, the Managers are optimistic for continuing growth prospects in this area.

The proven long term record*

The Fund has appeared in the top 10 of all Unit Trusts for one, two and four years and was 29th over 6 years.* Since the Fund's relaunch in 1976, the offer price has increased by 198.5% compared to a rise of 82% in the F.T. Ordinary Share Index. *Source: Planned Savings

The Fund

Capital growth, by investing in companies based or trading in the Far East, is the prime objective of the Fund. It offers additional flexibility by investing in the U.S.A.

The Fund is invested: 50% Japan, 32% Hong Kong, Singapore and Australia, and 18% U.S.A. The portfolio includes high technology stocks, health care and investments for the world of tomorrow.

Strong investment direction

Strong management brings strong results. With world wide information services, the Arbuthnot Group of Unit Trusts is a member of the Arbuthnot Latham Group, established in 1833, and now backed by the Dow Scandia Banking Corporation Ltd., whose shareholders' assets exceed £2,600 million.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up.

Fixed Price Offer until 5th February, 1982.

Accumulation Units £1.50 per unit (estimated gross yield 1.00%) or daily prices £1.00. The Managers reserve the right to close this offer if the value of units should rise by more than 20%. Applications will be acknowledged and unit certificates will be issued within 35 days. The offer price includes an initial charge of 7%. The annual charge is 1% (+VAT). National distributions net of basic rate tax made on 15th April and 15th October, for those registered on 28th February and 31st August.

respectively. After the close of this offer units may be purchased or sold back at the daily dealing price. Payment will be made within 14 days of our receipt of your certificate duly returned. Daily price and yield appear in most leading newspapers. A remuneration is paid to qualified intermediaries, rates available on request. This offer is not open to residents of the Republic of Ireland, Transvaal, The Royal Bank of Scotland Limited, Managers: Arbuthnot Securities Ltd. (Reg. in Edinburgh 44694), 25 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh. Members of the Unit Trust Association.

Complete the coupon and send it to: Arbuthnot Securities Ltd., 37 Queen Street, London EC4R 1BT or phone: 01-236 5281, Ext. 301.

I/We wish to invest the sum of £ (min. £800) in Arbuthnot Eastern & International Fund Accumulation Units and enclose a cheque payable to Arbuthnot Securities Ltd.

I/We declare that we are over 18. Surname (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Ms) _____

First name(s) _____ Address _____

Tick for: Share exchange. ☐ Monthly savings. Further details of this fund. ☐ Other Arbuthnot Unit Trust Funds.

ARBUTHNOT

The Royal Bank of Scotland Mortgage Rate

The Royal Bank of Scotland Limited announces that with effect from 1 February 1982 its Mortgage Rate will be reduced to 15½ per cent per annum.

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Why you should invest in Spanish property

The possibility of exchange controls returning concentrates the mind wonderfully. True, the present Government has gone on record that there is no intention to reimpose exchange controls — but a doctrinaire socialist government, if returned to power, is committed to their reimposition. And with the Exchange Control Act 1947 still on the statute books, such a reimposition would be a weekend job.

It is likely that those who have taken the opportunity to put cash away in overseas bank accounts would be given six months to repatriate it. Overseas property would be another matter because bricks and mortar, whether in the form of a sun-washed farmhouse in the Dordogne or a Spanish villa fronting the Mediterranean is not easily liquidated. So overseas property would, in all probability, be exempted — although the

"If you move into Spain to buy a property you will be faced with a banking system which to British people often has no rhyme or reason."

old investment currency market would soon reestablish itself, as would the investment currency premium, which touched effective levels of well over 50 per cent in the mid 1970s.

So the next two years could be your best opportunity to buy overseas property without paying the premium — and also to diversify part of your investment portfolio outside this country. But before getting into the complex business of buying a property in what is the most desirable destination for sun-starved Britons — Spain — there is something to bear in mind.

If you want a retirement home for that last long holiday, remember that the medical services may not only be expensive, but less efficient than those available in the United Kingdom. Your state of health could force you to sell up and come back home — in

which case do you face exchange control problems in getting your money out and back into the United Kingdom? Or will you have to fork out for any capital gains taxes?

If you move money into Spain to buy a property you will be faced, as one property developer commented wryly, "with a banking system which to British people often has no rhyme or reason."

You have a choice when remitting funds to the Spanish banks. One method is by banker's draft expressed in convertible pesetas and drawn on a bank in Madrid. Do not send a sterling bankers draft because this has to be sent clear to the United Kingdom for clearance, with a delay of about 21 days.

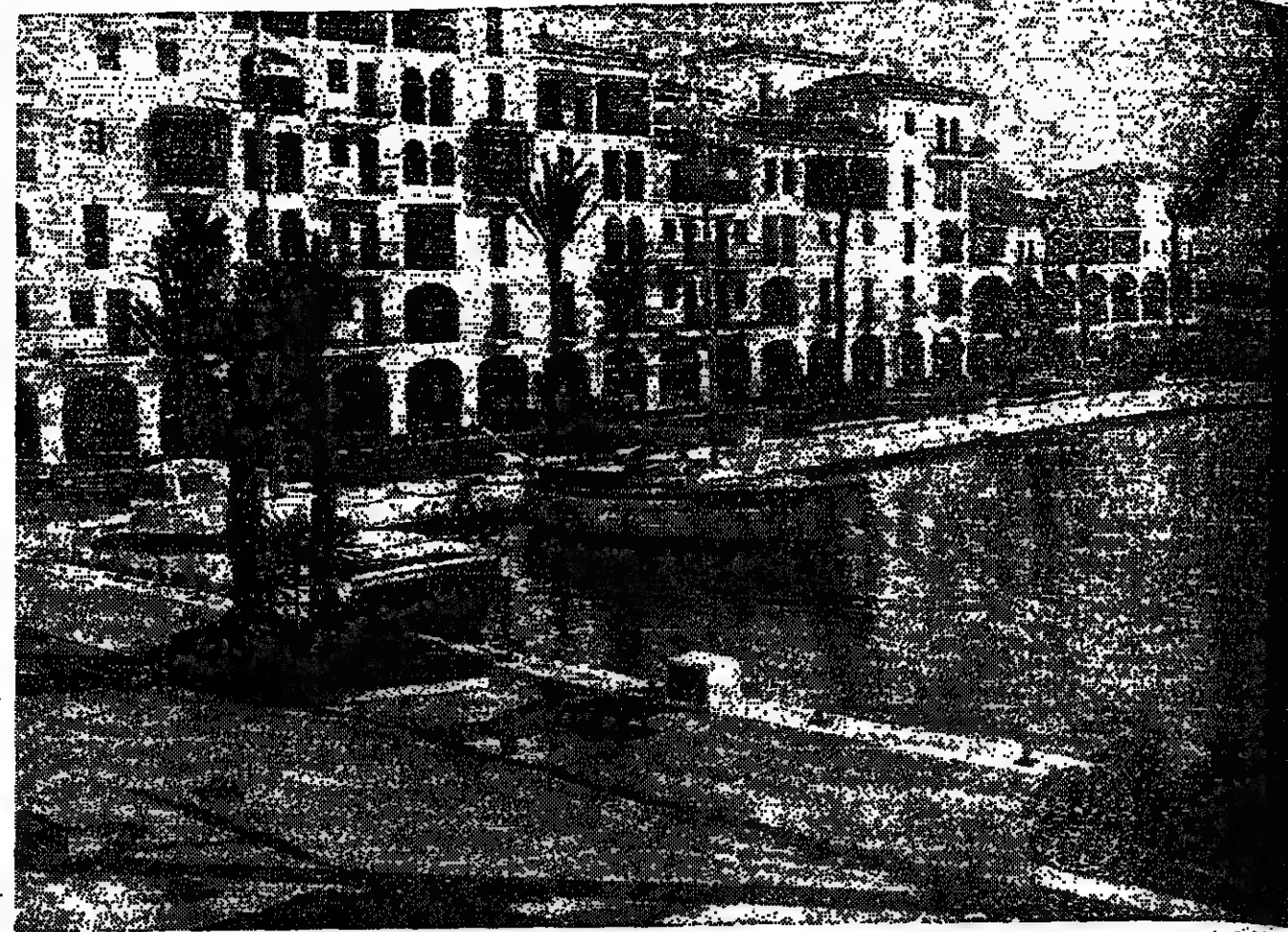
If you send funds via a convertible pesetas bankers draft, the Spanish banks will charge you 0.20 per cent of face value of the draft. This route is preferable to the bank transfer made between a United Kingdom bank and a Spanish bank. One reason is that funds transmitted under the latter method can "rest" in Madrid — where it earns interest for the bank — before the eventual transmission to the receiving bank in the province in which you are taking up residence.

One way to foil this particular Spanish ploy is to telegraph the receiving bank that the funds are on their way — and they will extract the cash from Madrid.

But the main disadvantage to this bank transfer route is cost. The Spanish banks charge 0.15 per cent of the value of the transfer — but then knock off a further 3 per cent because Spanish banks great bank transfers as promissory notes.

There are two types of pesetas accounts in Spain. The *peseta normale* account is the one used by Spaniards and is similar to our United Kingdom resident sterling accounts in the days of exchange control. The other is the "convertible peseta" account which is used solely by non-residents of Spain.

The amount of cash held in this type of account is unlimited and can be remitted freely in and out of Spain at will without any prior permission. Non-residents of Spain may also maintain a *peseta normale* account with a limit of 200,000 pesetas per person.



Property at Puerto Cabopino, one of the Spanish properties being sold by Sol International

... and what to watch out for

Most people taking up permanent residence in Spain go through the normal process of obtaining the necessary permits, which takes about 18 months, thus avoiding being given "tourist status". As soon as permanent residence status is accorded, only a *peseta normale* account can be maintained, as with Spanish nationals.

Given this particular pitfall, any sensible Briton, wishing to take up permanent residence in Spain, would be wise to leave the bulk of his, or her, capital in an off-shore finance centre such as Jersey.

This kills two birds with one stone. Cash held in a Jersey bank can be advanced to the money markets (sterling and foreign currency) or invested in shares, domestic bonds or Eurobonds, so that interest and dividends accumulate virtually tax free.

So, if you ever want to leave Spain and go elsewhere, or come back to the United Kingdom, the money market capital is nestling safely in Jersey rather than in Spain.

When it comes to the actual step of buying a villa or apartment in Spain, watch

and not by deed, therefore escaping the payment of the property tax. It was agreed that a period of a year would allow everyone to put their property affairs in order, and it was generally understood that the previously under-declared values which had been accepted in the past would not be allowed in the future.

Since June last year any one discovered owning a property only by private contract stands to pay a fine and his property tax will be charged at the old rate of 8.4 per cent.

Under-declaring a property's value on a private contract, or on the notarial deed, or escritura, is foolish anyway because, when the time comes to sell up, the Spanish authorities will allow only the falsely declared, lower amount, to be repatriated to the United Kingdom.

Malcolm Craig

UNIT TRUSTS

Unit Trusts offer an attractive method for investors to share in the wealth generated by companies. Your money is invested in a wide spread of stocks and shares in Britain or elsewhere in the world. For details of the well-known M&G range, together with their performance record, please complete the coupon below.

Please send me details of the M&G range of Unit Trusts. The M&G Group, Three Quays, Tower Hill, London EC3R 6BQ. Telephone: 01-626 4568.

Mr/Ms/Miss INITIALS SURNAME
ADDRESS
POST CODE
UT400012

THE M&G GROUP

GT outstrips inflation.

The gyrations on the world's stockmarkets during recent months have, understandably, made many investors nervous. But investment, as we at GT have always maintained, is a long term affair. It is reassuring that, even after the recent shake out, the value of units under our management has comfortably outstripped inflation as you can see when comparing "Granny Bonds", whose price is linked to the retail price index, with GT's Capital and Income Funds.

Whilst markets could well remain turbulent for some while, skilled management by GT should continue to safeguard your investment.

GT Unit Trust Performance

GT Unit Trusts	1 year	2 years	4 years	6 years
Capital Fund	+ 0.2	+ 61.4	+ 85.6	+ 173.6
Far East & General Fund	+ 13.7	+ 117.3	Dec 78†	—
Income Fund	+ 7.1	+ 42.1	+ 61.3	+ 177.6
International Fund	+ 11.2	+ 62.8	+ 153.5	May 79†
Japan & General Fund	+ 33.1	+ 79.7	+ 149.7	+ 209.1
Technology & Growth Fund	April '81†	—	—	—
US & General Fund	+ 7.1	+ 58.6	+ 67.8	+ 107.5
Pension Exempt Fund	+ 6.4	+ 62.7	+ 159.5*	—

(Assumes all dividends reinvested) Value of £100 invested over various periods to 31/12/81 expressed as a percentage change (Source: Planned Savings). *Figure shown is for 3 years.

Facts about GT Unit Managers

Part of the GT Management Group which manages over £800 million, GT Unit Managers looks after over £60 million of Unit Trust funds and has an outstanding investment record.

GT Unit Trusts consistently rank among the top performers and, in the past four years, GT has twice achieved the distinction of managing the best performing Unit Trust in the country.

What the Papers Say

The Guardian "The performance of the GT investment management group, for example, has been quite remarkable..."

Daily Express "GT Management, one of the most successful unit trust groups in the country..."

Sunday Telegraph "GT Group, one of the leading unit trust stables in recent years..."

The Observer "GT... a group which has always had the not too common good sense to confine its unit trust exposure to investment areas where it has particular expertise."

Daily Telegraph "GT has a formidable reputation as investment managers in the Far East markets..."

Evening Standard "Those shrewd people who run the GT Unit Trust stable..."

For information about any of GT's funds, simply fill in the coupon and send it to GT Management Ltd, Park House, 16 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7DJ or telephone 01-628 8131.

Please send me information on the following funds:

Capital Fund ☐ International Fund ☐

Japan and General Fund ☐ Income Fund ☐

Far East & General Fund ☐ Technology & Growth Fund ☐

US & General Fund ☐ Pension Exempt Fund ☐

GT Personal Pension Plan ☐ GT Single Premium Plan ☐

Name _____

Address _____

GT UNIT MANAGERS

THE GT GROUP

COMMODITIES

COPPER was firmer. Afternoon: higher grade 35.50; lower grade 35.00. Cash standard cathodes 35.00. Three months 35.00. Six months 35.00. Nine months 35.00. Twelve months 35.00.

LEAD was steady. Afternoon: standard 27.00; higher grade 27.50. Cash standard cathodes 27.00. Three months 27.00. Six months 27.00. Nine months 27.00. Twelve months 27.00.

ZINC was firmer. Afternoon: cash 25.00; three months 25.00; six months 25.00; nine months 25.00; twelve months 25.00.

PLATINUM was steady. Afternoon: cash 1,100.00; three months 1,100.00; six months 1,100.00; nine months 1,100.00; twelve months 1,100.00.

SILVER was barely steady. Afternoon: cash 1,100.00; three months 1,100.00; six months 1,100.00; nine months 1,100.00; twelve months 1,100.00.

RUSSIAN (peace per kilo) 21.00. April-June 21.00. July-Sept 21.00. Oct-Dec 21.00.

WHEAT (The Battle). WHEAT: US dark northern No 2 14.00. US hard winter 13.00. US soft winter 12.00.

MAIZE: French Feb 11.50. May 11.50. Sept 11.50. Dec 11.50.

SUGAR: French Feb 11.50. May 11.50. Sept 11.50. Dec 11.50.

COFFEE: French Feb 11.50. May 11.50. Sept 11.50. Dec 11.50.

TEA: French Feb 11.50. May 11.50. Sept 11.50. Dec 11.50.

PEPPER: French Feb 11.50. May 11.50. Sept 11.50. Dec 11.50.

CLOVE: French Feb 11.50. May 11.50. Sept 11.50. Dec 11.50.

GINGER: French Feb 11.50. May 11.50. Sept 11.50. Dec 11.50.

EGG: French Feb 11.50. May 11.50. Sept 11.50. Dec 11.50.

BUTTER: French Feb 11.50. May 11.50. Sept 11.50. Dec 11.50.

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CLOVE: French Feb 11.50. May 11.50. Sept 11.50. Dec 11.50.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crds.	14%
C. Hoare & Co	14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams & Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sum of £10,000 up to £20,000. 12-24 month 2.5% and over.

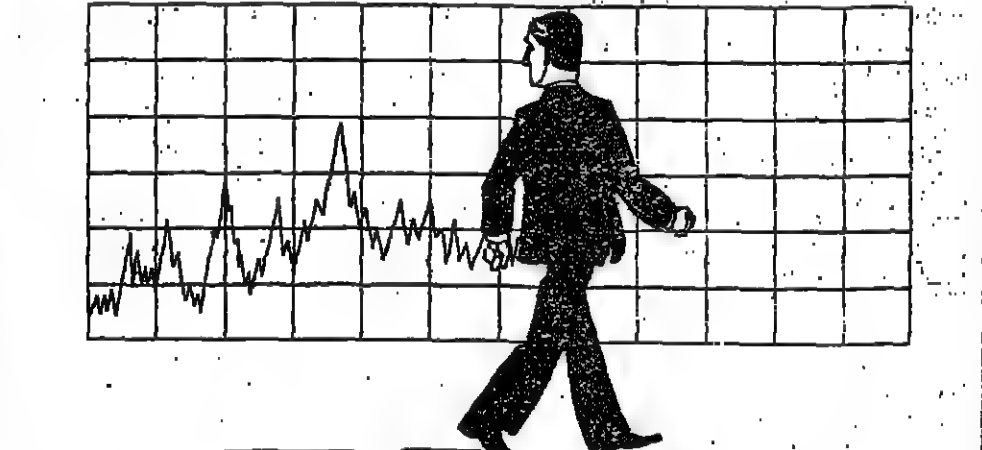
M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovel Lane EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

High	Low	Company	Price Ch'ge	Grnd	Ytd	Actual	P/E	Yield
123	100	ABI Ridge 10% CUPS	123	+1	10.0	8.1	—	—
75	62	Airprung Group	70	+1	4.7	6.8	11.0	15.4
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5
205	187	Bardon Hill	205	—	9.7	4.7	10.0	12.1
104	81	Deborah Services	81	—	6.0	7.4	4.0	7.6
130	97	Frank Horrell	130	—	6.4	4.9	11.7	24.1
78	39	Frederick Parker	78	—	1.7	2.2	33.9	—
78	46	George Blair	50	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	95	+1	7.3	7.7	6.8	10.3
105	100	Isis Conv Pref	105	—	15.7	15.0	—	—
113	95	Jackson Group	95	—	7.0	7.4	3.8	6.7
130	108	James Burrough	113	—	8.7	7.7	6.2	10.4
334	290	Robert Jenkins	232	+2	31.3	12.4	8.5	8.9
59	51	Scruttons "A"	56	—	5.3	9.5	8.6	8.8
222	166	Torday & Carlisle	166	—	10.7	6.4	5.3	8.9
15	10	Twinklark Ord	13 1/2	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinklark 15% ULS	76	+1	15.0	19.7	—	—
44	27	Unilock Holdings	27	—	3.0	11.1	4.8	8.2
103	75	Walter Alexander	75	—	6.0	8.5	4.9	8.7
263	212	W. S. Yeates	218	—	13.1	16.0	4.1	8.4

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Football

In the valley of the shadow, a matter of life and death

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

The English League it may be but the two matches of the day take place over the border in Wales. Swansea City, once on top of the first division, take on the new leaders, Manchester United, and Newport County are the hosts for what may prove to be the last game that Bristol City will play. Both may have a significant bearing on the future.

A group of local businessmen, who could emerge as a shadow board pending the issue of new shares, are discussing a possible takeover of Bristol City. The club that once over £1m will not be resolved until next week. If Bristol fall others are sure to follow: Oxford United escaped narrowly recently and Halesowen and Darlington are struggling to stay afloat.

Today, though the caretaker manager, Ron Atkinson, only worry is team selection. "When the crisis hit us," he said, "I gave all the players a day off and wondered how they would react to being put out of work. I need not have worried. Their attitude has been entirely professional and they are all determined to get a good result at Newport." Even if the club are there next Sunday eight of his side may not be.

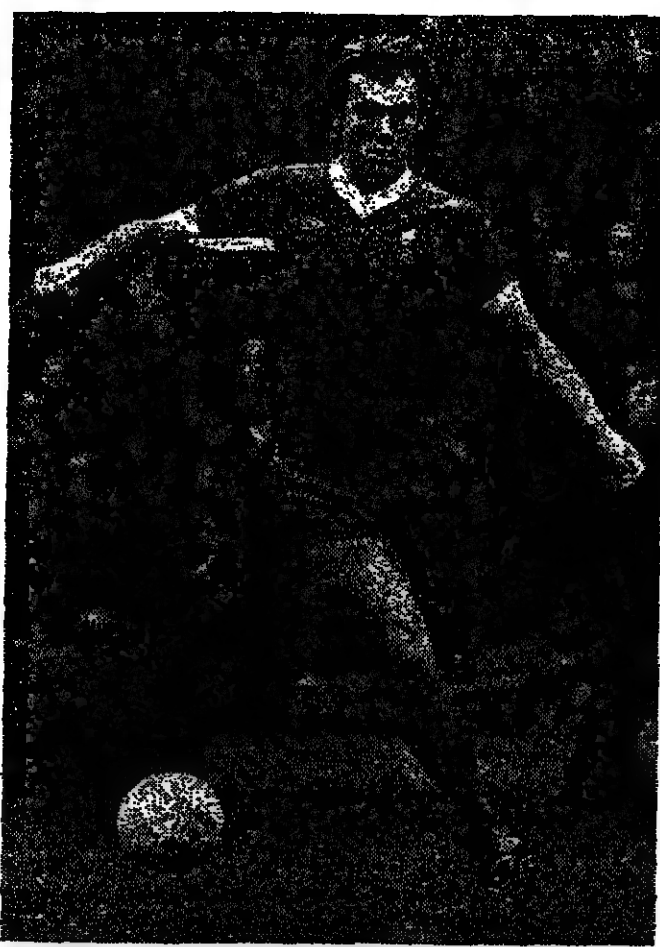
There are no such problems for John Toshack and Ron Atkinson, managers of Swansea and United respectively. Mr Toshack has bought six players and sold only two since August. He added another forward, Liverpool colleague, Roy Kennedy, to his collection in midweek and then added, with a curious sense of humour, "We must cut the wage bill."

Mr Atkinson has yet to reduce United's huge playing staff and today he can afford to omit two international defenders, Buchan and Gilmour, although both have recovered from injury. United, who announced that they are to install under-21s at Old Trafford next season, lost their way in the snow but found it again this week. Swansea, top of the tree at Christmas, are now adrift and today may represent their last realistic hope.

The club that Kennedy left is rapidly emerging as contenders. Still involved in three cup competitions, Liverpool's group fellow European Cup representatives, Aston Villa, who have lost six of their last eight games as well as Shaw, his swollen knee is encased in plaster and Geddis, who scored twice on his last outing, is likely to be replaced in a contest that will be watched by spies from Dynamo Kiev.

Liverpool will meet the championship favourites, Newcastle Town, three times early next month but one face they are unlikely to see is Buchan. A surgeon operated on it on Thursday and died an artery leading from his broken nose to his eye. After remarking that he had never before seen such an injury, he advised Buchan not to play for a fortnight. Mariner is doubtful for the game against Notts County, beaten 4-0 at home by Liverpool in midweek, but this is a fit sign.

Southampton have spurned two chances to climb on to the peak for the first time in their history. In the unlikely event of United and Ipswich falling, they could succeed at the third attempt by winning at Middlesbrough. Williams, out of favour, and Lawrie McNamee, has been put



Ray Kennedy: he changed his shirt in midweek.

on the transfer list and Baker will probably make only his second appearance since October. Either Price or Lacy will also make a rare appearance, their third and first of season respectively for Tottenham Hotspur and Everton. Injury has already ruled out Roberts, whose shin was cut by his own colleague, Falco, on Wednesday night, and suspension may follow. He is to see the disciplinary commission on Tuesday.

"Inevitably," difficulties to transfer talks have prevented Nicholl on loan to Sunderland from Manchester United, from playing in the first team. At Wolverhampton Wanderers, Murro, their captain, is also absent and their leading scorer may be missing as well. It is a Richie, once of Bristol City.

Three games a week too great a financial drain

Scotland could turn to summer football when the chairman held a summit meeting at Dunblane tomorrow. A 14-point agenda has been drawn up by the Scottish League management committee for the club chairman, Scottish football topping the bill. As well as possible changes to the playing season, they will consider League representatives on the three points for a win system and a revamped League Cup format.

Last week Scottish football managers unanimously joined the campaign for a winter season and yesterday the Scottish division of the National Federation of Supporters' Clubs also came out in favour. Their chairman, Charles Burnett, presented the Partick Thistle chairman, Miller Reid, with a six-page dossier detailing views of official supporters clubs in Scotland.

"I've asked Mr Reid to distribute them among the other 37 club chairmen at Dunblane and I would be sure of them to consider our proposals."

We are fully committed to a change in the season, preferably starting down in December and finishing up in June. This is based on the simple fact that matches on bad pitches do not give value for money and are extremely uncomfortable to watch.

"The number of games should be greatly reduced so as not to write too deeply into the supporters' pockets," said Reid. "Changes have been resisted in the past and there is still a variety of

opinion in Scotland which may prevent a move away from tradition tomorrow.

This time, though, the pressure from the pro-summer lobby is mounting and could bring the midwinter shutdown, a stop made by Celtic set down to the serious business of defending their Premier Division championship again today after being rudely interrupted by the weather. During the six-week freeze they could only sit back and watch Rangers, courtesy of their underdog heat, while the Scottish league point lead to three.

Billy McNeill, the Celtic manager, attempts to chart a fresh course towards the end of the season. He said: "I am not sure that the two of us youngsters in this situation. Paul McGee, aged 17, and John Dalglish, aged 20, played against Aberdeen in the South in the open Cup last week and convinced Mr McNeill that they were worth a second chance.

"It doesn't carry me that they are being pushed in the pressure cooker so soon," he said. "They must face it some time and after the progress of some of my young players, I am expecting a similar response."

Aberdeen's Scottish International, Gordon Strachan, may play after all. He was almost ruled out of the game by a leg injury but has made a remarkable recovery from a leg injury.

Alex Ferguson, the Aberdeen manager, said: "I am not sure that the two of us youngsters in this situation. Paul McGee, aged 17, and John Dalglish, aged 20, played against Aberdeen in the South in the open Cup last week and convinced Mr McNeill that they were worth a second chance.

Chelsea may be forced to sell Stamford Bridge

Chelsea, who bought their ground only 12 years ago, may be forced to sell it this year, according to a report in the Sunday Express. The report, which is based on a confidential source, says that the club's financial problems are so severe that they may be forced to sell the ground to raise cash.

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Mr Spencer's survival recipe for the game as a whole includes a reorganised and smaller league, and clubs run by businessmen, with managers involved only in coaching and not in finance.

But whether the league is restructured or not, Chelsea's financial problems are so severe that they may be forced to sell the ground to raise cash.

Golf

Kite's flights keep pace with giants

From John Ballantine
La Jolla, California, Jan 29

Johnny Miller, freshly recovered from his £250,000 triumph at the Claret and Gold Cup, was slightly slower than the 1977 Masters champion whose back "bothered him" in the chilly weather yesterday, did what he could on the 6,627 yard North course after the first round of the San Diego Open.

Californian Mark Lye, with a 66 on the 7,002 yards South links, where the final 36 holes will be played, was slightly slower than the 1977 Masters champion whose back "bothered him" in the chilly weather yesterday, did what he could on the 6,627 yard North course after the first round of the San Diego Open.

Snooker

Higgins whistles past Charlton

By Sydney Frickin
Alex Higgins romped through his quarter-final match against Eddie Charlton, of Australia, before a packed audience at the Conference Centre in the Benson and Hedges Masters tournament, yesterday. Higgins won 5-1 in one of the easiest matches he could have expected in the defence of his title.

Explaining his failure to appear at two exhibition matches during the week, Higgins said: "It was nothing. I was just a bit out of the game and the fault was mine." He added that after he had played John Virgo in an exhibition match at Cambridge last Saturday he did have difficulty returning to Manchester because of bad weather and then lost touch with the things he had to do.

That familiar cavalier approach and spontaneous stroke making still surprised the greatest attraction in the professional game. He set out yesterday to consolidate, a task facilitated by Charlton's lack of experience. Higgins admitted that he did not deserve to win the first frame but he kept missing and letting me in.

A rather boisterous crowd began to whistle and cheer Higgins as he moved inexorably on to victory but Charlton took his share of encouragement. "I feel guilty when I get the lion's share of the applause," Higgins said, "but I need people. It helps personal pride. I think I am on the way back and I am very happy for Sheffield. It is the venue for the world championship which starts on April 30.

Higgins regards Wembley as a terrific venue. "I always do well here," a remark justified by the fluency of his play and the breaks he made. He won the fifth frame with two visits to the table, making 54 and 74 without allowing Charlton a chance to score. Charlton might have drawn level at 2-2 but after leading 5-1 he missed yet another red and Higgins moved in to make a break of 57 which ended on the pink.

The best of Charlton was seen in the second frame which he won with breaks of 33 and 34.

Steve Davis, the world champion, meets Tony Meo in the semi-final round today. Meo, who, like Davis, is managed by Willie Thorne, is a former champion in the English final at Haden Hill near Birmingham, last year and Davis won a somewhat one-sided match when he proved beyond recognition since then.

On Thursday night Davis qualified for the semi-final round with a 5-2 victory over the Welshman Tony Meo, who he had beaten in the first round of the tournament. Davis has now won the world championship for the second time, having won it in 1981.



Higgins: greatest attraction

Griffiths, but after potting the last red, he missed the black with all the colours nicely positioned for a clearance.

Davis led 3-1 at the interval. Monday night he had a break of 47, but Davis was irresistible in the last two frames and emerged a comfortable winner.

QUARTER-FINALS: Higgins (54) beat Charlton (1) 5-1; Davis (54) beat Meo (34) 5-2; Higgins (54) beat Charlton (1) 5-1; Davis (54) beat Meo (34) 5-2.

Swimming

Miss Croft can sprint clear for clean sweep

From Ashby Stn
Amersfoort, Jan 29

Adrian Moorhouse, who looks poised for his most successful year to the annual three-day Speedweek, which opened here today, said he was determined to win the 100m sprint, the 200m, and the 400m. He was ranked 1st and 9th, respectively, in the world last year.

Moorhouse, himself, was only 16 (6.13), but I fancy him to win once again. He has won the 100m sprint, the 200m, and the 400m in the past.

The sprint specialist Jane Croft (Williams) was also in the world, who are capable of giving her a decent race these days. She could well become the only competitor in the history of this meeting to win all four gold medals in the 100, 200, 400, and 800 metres.

Miss Croft is in quite exceptional form at the moment, having broken the British records in the 100, 200, 400, and 800 metres in the recent short-course Gainsville International in Florida, where she also won a 200m and came within a hair of the world record in the 400m.

It is to be denied a clean sweep, then it will probably be the last time that she will win all four gold medals in the 100, 200, 400, and 800 metres.

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Motor racing

Spain try again for grand prix

Paris, Jan 29. — Spain has applied to run a world championship grand prix race on Jan 29, during the World Cup football tournament, FISA announced here today.

The Spanish Formula One team, which has been suspended from two years by an FIA disciplinary commission for reaching 20th place in the 1979 season, has applied to run a world championship grand prix race on Jan 29, during the World Cup football tournament, FISA announced here today.

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Tennis

Mottram: a new attitude after collecting his money

From Bryan John
Delray Beach, Florida, Jan 29

Christopher Mottram had earned, or perhaps collected is more appropriate, \$6,000 when he won the \$10,000 World Gold Coast Cup tournament came to a predictable end here last night.

It was, even by today's grossly inflated standards, a remarkable reward for losing to Jose Alcazar on Tuesday.

Mottram, who had lost to Jose Alcazar on Tuesday, was not happy. "I was disappointed," he said. "I was disappointed."

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Squash rackets

Brumby gets on with it and no whingeing

Glen Brumby and Stuart Davern, two players from down under who have based themselves in England came through to the final of the British Open Squash Championships at Wembley on Thursday night.

Brumby, an Australian based in Nottingham, beat Ricki Davies, a Welshman based in Beaconsfield 9-10, 5-6, 3-2, 9-7 while Davern, a New Zealander also from Beaconsfield, won 9-1, 9-5, 9-5 against Greg Pollard.

Brumby's victory over Hill was a dramatic one. He had been in the tournament for a long time and he was doubtful that he would even be able to play.

Channelling some strange stories from Guernsey

By Rex Bellamy

The oddities of Guernsey can be bewildering in their diversity. The fact that the Guernsey Evening Post is published in the mornings is not strictly relevant to our sports news. Nor is the fact that a pay rise for greengrocers workers provoked a tentative front page comment. In such circumstances, though, it was not surprising that a Guernsey newspaper should have a story about a player who had been in the tournament for a long time and he was doubtful that he would even be able to play.

Skating

Austrian hopes buried in soft snow

Schladming, Jan 29. — Austria's hopes of a triumph in the world championship took a blow when heavy snow forced the postponement of the men's combination downhill.

The weather seems certain to produce soft snow and the Austrian team, which has been in the world championship for a long time, is not in the best of form.

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Latest European snow reports

Best European snow reports

	Depth (cm)	Conditions	Off Piste	Run to resort	Weather (5 pm)
Courmayeur	137 26	Good	Varied	Fair	Snow
Davos	130 250	Good	Fair	Good	Snow
Superb powder but poor visibility					
Fisling	170 500	Good	Fair	Good	Snow
Poor visibility in heavy snow					
Kitzbühel	120 165	Good	Fair	Good	Snow
Snowing, good skiing, bad visibility					
Les Arcs	130 150	Good	Fair	Good	Snow
Some icy patches under powder					
Niedersan	55 155	Fair	Fair	Good	Snow
Snow falling all day					
St Moritz	57 130	Good	Good	Good	Snow
Powder on hard base					
Sea-Fee	100 170	Good	Fair	Good	Snow
Good skiing on new snow					
Saint d'Ois	75 75	Wind	Varied	Worn	-2
Cloud and windblown snow more					
Val d'Isère	170 280	Good	Fair	Good	Snow
Excellent skiing everywhere					
Villars	160 160	Good	Fair	Good	Snow
20cm of fresh powder fallen					
Wengen	70 110	Good	Fair	Good	Snow

More new snow on hard base

In the above reports, supplied by the Ski Club of Great Britain, I refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following report has been received from another source:

SCOTLAND: Cairngorms: main runs, 7,000 feet; across road clear; snow on all complete, wet snow, main runs all complete, heavy wet snow; lower slopes, 5,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; across roads clear; snow on all complete, 1,500 feet, 1,500 feet, wet snow; 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McEnroe still struggling

Philadelphia, Jan 29. — John McEnroe and Jimmy Connors recorded contrasting victories last night as they continued on their way to a meeting in the \$300,000 US indoor championships.

McEnroe, the top seed, struggled to beat the West German Rolf Gellert 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 and reach tomorrow's quarter-final against the No 6 seed, Sandy Mayer.

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Tennis

VINA DEL MAR (Chile): Quarter-final: Del Mar (Chile) beat... (text continues with match results)

Ice Hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal beat... (text continues with match results)

Finland out of team event

Singapore, Jan 29. — Finland have withdrawn from the team event of the World Junior Championships here from February 7 to 14.

The Finnish team, which had been in the tournament for a long time, is not in the best of form.

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Edited by Peter Davalle

